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“SPHERE AND ASH.”

HISTORY OF BASE BALL.

NOTABLE RECORDS BY PRIMITIVE CLUBS.

CONTESTS FOR SUPREMACY IN THE SIXTIES.

REMARKABLE TOURS OF THE EARLY ORGANIZATIONS.

GAMES CONSPICUOUS FOR EXTRA INNINGS.

COMPLETE REVIEW OF ALL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES.

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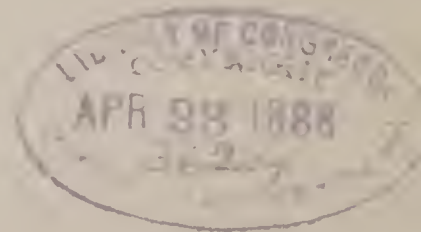
By J. C. MORSE

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HISTORY OF BASE BALL.

IT can be said, without fear of contradiction, that base ball is the sport of sports in the United States; no other sport furnishing as much or as satisfactory amusement. The game was never so popular and never gained so much ground as last season, — a fact largely due to the excellent influences that surrounded it, and to the ability of the gentlemen who had it in charge. The struggles for the supremacy in the league national championship were closely watched by thousands from the first day of the season to the end, and by admirers not only in this country, but also abroad. Wherever the American chanced to be, he eagerly scanned papers and mails from home which might give him information on the positions of the clubs. So great has been and is the hold of the game in the land, that American students in Berlin have celebrated the Fourth of July by a contest of base ball, while matches in Honolulu in the Sandwich Islands have been of frequent occurrence. The game has found its way into Canada, and has seriously threatened to replace lacrosse, the national sport of that country. A Canadian club, the Torontos, now holds the championship of the International Association, and was one of the strongest in the country at the close of the season. The sport thrives, too, in Cuba, and there are excellent grounds, good clubs, and promising players in Havana. The development, too, of the sport in sections of this country to which it has been comparatively new, has been simply marvellous. Leagues have been formed in the Southern, Western, and Northwestern States, and beside these organizations, there is scarcely a State that has not a league. Even in far-off San Francisco excitement over base ball is intense, and some of the most desirable players in the country hail from that city. The fever has

also struck New Mexico, and the clubs that have introduced the game there attest the great interest manifested in that region. Instead of the game being played out, as many would have it, it has actually increased its hold in the estimation of the public, and in some places has supplanted every rival for popular favor. In Philadelphia the fever is so great that the city easily supports two clubs at an admission price of but twenty-five cents. New York really has had two clubs, in the New Yorks and Metropolitans, while the grounds of the Brooklyns are readily accessible to residents of the metropolis. On the days of great matches, it is no exaggeration to say that people come from great distances to witness contests. Nor is the interest in the game confined to those who are present at the matches. There are thousands who are unable to find the time to attend, and there are thousands who cannot afford the expenditure, even though it be slight. Yet these must be counted among the most ardent lovers of the game, and to them, on a holiday, there could be no greater treat than that of witnessing a base ball match. To the business or professional man nothing affords more pleasure than a ball game. Here he can throw off all cares and troubles. He forgets to think about them in the relaxation he enjoys in the excitement of a close contest, and he goes to his home feeling all the better for the few hours spent in the air. It is a medicine to him and a tonic, and it is with a zest that he afterward partakes of his evening meal. The game, too, is purely and thoroughly American, entirely characteristic of our race and times. It had an English origin, 't is true, but the child is as different from the parent as anything that could be imagined. Cricket could never have become an American game. It is too slow, too leisurely, for the American. It could never become national, for how many could spare the time, were they players, to participate in a contest that will take as much as a day, granting that the contest would be finished in this space of time? And even if players could find time, how about the spectators? No, the American would not sacrifice a morning for a cricket game. He is quick and active, nervous and energetic, and he wants his sport to answer the requirements of his temperament. Base ball has answered his purpose admirably.

Playing with the ball is a pastime that goes far back into the ages.

The Greeks practised it as tending to give grace and elasticity to the figure, and they erected a statue to Aristonicus for his proficiency in it. Horace says that the effeminate Mæcenus amused himself during his journey by playing ball. In the Greek gymnasia and in the Roman baths there were special apartments for ball playing, called *sphæristerii*, where certain rules and gradations of exercise were to be observed, according to the state of health of the player. The



HARRY WRIGHT, THE VETERAN MANAGER.

balls used were of various materials; the most common being of leather, inflated; others were stuffed with feathers. The ancient doctors would prescribe a course of ball tossing as the modern M. D. would prescribe pills. In the sixteenth century the game of ball was popular in the courts of Europe, especially in Italy and France, and was highly esteemed for its influence in promoting agility and strength, and as a means of health and enjoyment.

“Rounders,” from which base ball derived its origin, is a very simple game, so simple that girls could play it. It was played with a ball and bats, or sticks something in the form of a policeman’s truncheon. An English work on outdoor sports describes the game as follows:

A hole is first made, about a foot across and half a foot deep. Four other stations are marked with pegs stuck into the ground, topped with a piece of paper, so as to be readily seen. Sides are then chosen, one of which goes in. There may be five or more players on each side. Suppose that there are five. One player on the side that is out stands in the middle of the five-sided space, and pitches the ball toward the middle of the hole. He is called the feeder. The batsman hits it off, if he can; in which case he drops the stick and runs to the nearest station, thence to the third, and all round if the hit has been a far one. The other side are scouting and trying to put him out either by hitting the batsman as he is running, or by sending the ball into the hole, which is called “grounding.” The player at the hole may decline to strike the ball, but if he hits at it and misses twice running, he is out. When a player makes the round of the stations back to the hole, his side counts one toward the game. When all the players are out, either by being hit or the ball being grounded, the other side get their innings. When there are only two players left, a chance is given of prolonging the innings by one of them getting three balls from the feeder; and if he can give a hit such as to enable him to run the whole round, all his side come in again, and the counting is resumed. The feeder is generally the best player on his side, much depending on his skill and art. The scouts should seldom aim at the runners from a distance, but throw the ball up to the feeder or some one near, who will try to hit or to ground, as seems the most advisable. A caught ball also puts the striker out.

Up to 1857 the game of base ball was played under various rules, and was merely a schoolboy’s game, as is the game of rounders to-day. In 1845 it first became a club game. The Olympic Club of Philadelphia was formed in 1833, but it played nothing but “town ball,” one of the numerous varieties of the game. In New England a game called the “New England” game, in contrast with the “New York”

game, was played. The New England game was played with a small and light ball, thrown overhand to the bat, while in the New York game a large and elastic ball was used. Before the game recognized as the game of to-day came into vogue, the rules allowed a man to be adjudged as out if he were struck by a thrown ball. This schoolboy rule was soon abolished, and it was required that a runner must be touched to be declared out. This was the first departure from the primitive rules. At this period, too, the game was won by the club making the largest number of "aces" or runs in a given time. Then was substituted the idea of innings for runs, and the club scoring the largest number of runs in nine innings was pronounced the winner in a match. The rudimentary character of the game in its infancy can, moreover, be seen from the fact that under the first code of rules, the pitcher could deliver the ball as wildly and widely as he chose, for there was no penalty for bad pitching. The batsman, on the other hand, could offer at the ball when he felt so disposed. The following was

THE FIRST CODE OF RULES PRINTED.

SECTION 1. The bases shall be from "home" to second base, 42 paces; from first to third base, 42 paces, equidistant.

SECT. 2. The game to consist of 21 counts or aces, but at the conclusion an equal number of hands must be played.

SECT. 3. The ball must be pitched and not thrown for the bat.

SECT. 4. A ball knocked outside the range of the first or third base is foul.

SECT. 5. Three balls being struck at and missed, and the last one caught, is a hand out; if not caught, is considered fair, and the striker bound to run.

SECT. 6. A ball being struck or tipped, and caught either flying or on the first bound, is a hand out.

SECT. 7. A player, running the bases, shall be out, if the ball is in the hands of an adversary on the base, as the runner is touched by it before he makes his base; it being understood, however, that in no instance is a ball to be thrown at him.

SECT. 8. A player running, who shall prevent an adversary from

catching or getting the ball before making his base, is a hand out.

SECT. 9. If two hands are already out, a player running home at the time a ball is struck cannot make an ace if the striker is caught out.

SECT. 10. Three hands out, all out.

SECT. 11. Players must take their strike in regular turn.

SECT. 12. No ace or base can be made on a foul strike.

SECT. 13. A runner cannot be put out in making one base when a balk is made by the pitcher.

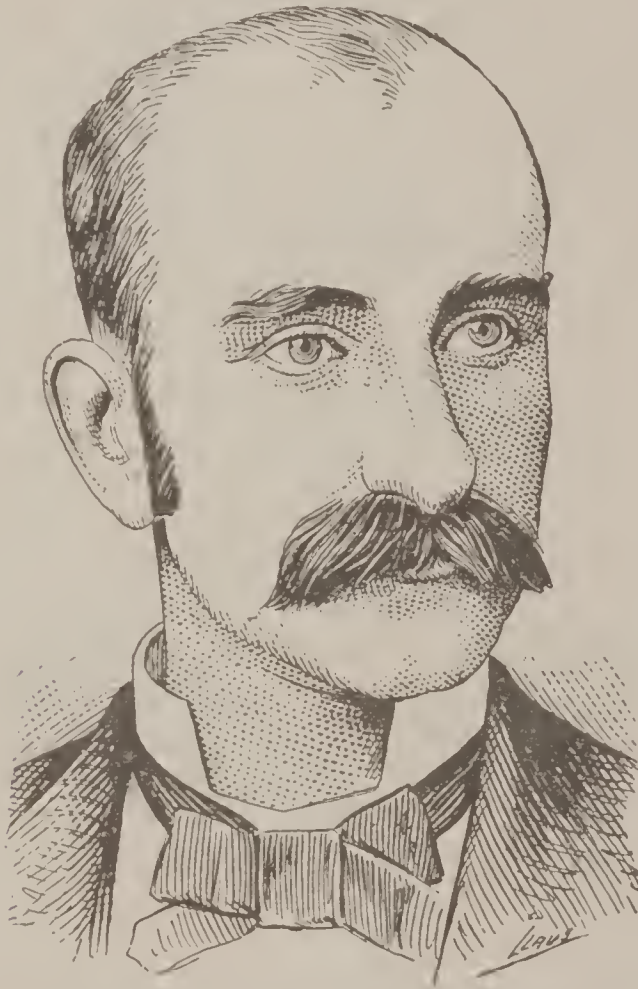
SECT. 14. But one base allowed when the ball bounds out of the field when struck.

The pioneer club to play under these rules was the Knickerbocker Club of New York, organized in September, 1845. Next came the Gothams in 1850, and then followed such familiar names to old timers as the Eckfords of Greenpoint, and Unions of Morrisiana in 1855. On June 19, 1846, the first match game ever played took place at Hoboken. It consisted of four innings, the rule being that the club which first made 21 runs should be awarded the game. The first game in Philadelphia occurred June 11, 1860, between the Equity and Winona clubs, and the first game on the Pacific slope took place in February of the same year. The first regularly organized club in this State was the Olympic Club of Boston, established in 1854, and for a year was the only one in the field.

In the summer of 1855, the first match game was played with the Elm Trees. In 1856 the Green Mountain Club was formed, and several exciting games were played between the club and the Olympics on the Common. In 1857 the Trimountains organized, and were the first to play under the flag of the National Association of Ball Players, formed in New York in May, 1857.

At the meeting of the Massachusetts Association of Base Ball Players, April 7, 1860, the name was changed to that of "The New England Association of Base Ball Players." The rules adopted at the meeting in Dedham, May 13, 1858, were amended at the meeting referred to. Under these rules the ball was to weigh not less than

two nor more than two and three fourths ounces, nor measure less than six and one half nor more than eight and one half inches in circumference. It was composed of woollen yarn and strips of Indian-rubber wound tightly and covered with buck or calf skin. The bat was round, not more than two and one half inches in diameter, and could be of any length to suit the striker. There was no diamond marked out for an infield. The infield was a square, each side being sixty feet



ROBERT FERGUSON, VETERAN MANAGER, CAPTAIN, AND UMPIRE.

long. The thrower, as the pitcher was called, stood in the centre of the square, facing the batsman, who stood in a space four feet in diameter, equidistant from the first and fourth corners of the square.

The players on the outside were stationed as follows: One at each base, a catcher, one or two to assist the latter, and several fielders according to the number of players, from ten to fourteen, that participated in a match. The bases were wooden stakes projecting from the

ground four inches. The pitcher had to throw the ball, but could not pitch or toss it. The batsman was out if the third strike aimed at and missed by him was caught; or if he ticked the ball and it was caught; if he was caught out on a fly ball. As early as this date, the referees had the power, after warning a batsman, to call strikes on good balls if he refused to offer at them. If the player, while running and between bases, was hit by a ball thrown by one of the opposing side, he was out. In match games, seventy tallies constituted the game, and one out disposed of the side. There were three referees, one from each club and one from a neutral club. A peculiar rule was that which compelled the catcher to remain on his feet in all cases when catching the ball. Another was that when two players occupied a base, the one was entitled to it who arrived last. From these rules it can be seen that the game of that date resembles the present game much less than it did the game of rounders. At the meeting in Dedham, May 13, 1858, ten clubs were represented, the call having been issued by the presidents of six of the senior clubs. The first code which led to the adoption of the above was framed by the Olympic Club. The officers for 1860 were as follows: President, E. Nelson, Excelsior Club, Upton; Vice-President, M. P. Berry, Warren Club, Roxbury; Secretary, C. H. Bingham, Bay State Club, Boston; Treasurer, A. D. Nutting, Haverhill. Clubs from Ashland, South Dedham, East Douglas, Mansfield, Boston, Charlestown, Westboro, Upton, East Cambridge, North Brookfield, Sharon, Waltham, Walpole Centre, Weymouth, Haverhill, South Walpole, North Weymouth, Marlboro, Medway, Bolton, Roxbury, Randolph, Natick, Holliston, and Milford constituted the members of the association. The fee for admission was \$1. The Boston clubs represented were the Olympics, Bay States, and Pythians.

The New England game quickly passed out of date, and was supplanted by the New York game, as it was called. The first convention of base ball players in that State was held in New York city in May, 1857, and here rules for the season were adopted. In 1858 another convention was held, and here the National Association of Base Ball Players sprung into existence. The first annual meeting was held in Cooper Institute, March 9, 1859. The New York game

marks the beginning of modern base ball. The diamond supplanted the square; canvas bases supplanted stakes; a pitched ball took the place of a thrown ball; nine innings, and not a certain number of runs, constituted a game; three men, and not one man, put the side out; nine players constituted a side; the base runner could not be put out on a thrown ball. All this is gleaned from a copy of the rules



A. G. SPALDING, PRESIDENT OF THE CHICAGO BASE BALL CLUB.

adopted in New York, March 14, 1860. At this time, however, a catch of a fair bound or of a foul bound disposed of the batsman. Otherwise, as to-day, the base runner could not run three feet out of the line of base; he could not score from third after two men were out if the batter had not reached first base safely; in case of rain, at least five innings constituted a game, and the distances between bases were ninety feet.

The following were the officers of the National Association in 1860: President, Dr. Jones, Excelsior Club, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Vice-Presidents, Thomas Dakin, Putnam Club, Brooklyn, N. Shrever, Excelsior Club, Brooklyn; Recording Secretary, J. R. Portley, Manhattan Club, New York; Corresponding Secretary, J. F. Jackson, Putnam Club, Brooklyn; Treasurer, E. H. Brown, Metropolitan Club, New York. The association then numbered sixty clubs, of which twenty-three belonged to New York city, and sixteen to Brooklyn. Boston, Albany, Detroit, Baltimore, Newark, Newburg, Jersey City, Poughkeepsie, Washington, New Haven, and Troy were also represented.

The first series of games for what may be called a championship took place in the years 1857-59. At that time the Elysian Fields at Hoboken were the great centre of ball playing, and here the Knickerbocker, Eagle, Gotham and Empire clubs showed their superiority. The Atlantics of Brooklyn soon became worthy rivals, though it took many exciting and hard-fought battles before their title to the supremacy was assured. Their success led to the arranging of a series of three games between picked teams of the New York and Brooklyn clubs in 1858, known as the "Fashion course" games. New York won two games out of the three, after a most successful series of games, by the close scores of 22-18, and 29-18, while Brooklyn won, 29-8. The New York nine in the first game consisted of DeBost, c.; VanCott, p.; Wadsworth, Pinckney, Bixby, basemen; Gelston, ss.; Hoyt, Benson, and Harry Wright in the field. Brooklyn played Leggett, c.; M. O'Brien, p.; Price, Holder, Masten, basemen; Pidgeon, ss.; P. O'Brien, Greene, Burr, fielders. Players were changed in each game. In 1860 there was a noteworthy series arranged between the Excelsior and Atlantic clubs, the former being determined to win from the latter, who, though not holding any official championship, were regarded as the crack club. The clubs met for the first time at the foot of Court Street, South Brooklyn, in the summer of 1860, and the Excelsiors, who had won every game they had played, won a signal victory, winning by a score of 23-4. The second game, at Bedford, was won by the Atlantics by the close figures of 15-14. The decisive game took place on the ground of the Putnam Club, and was declared a draw, the Excelsiors

refusing to play the game out, owing to the insulting actions of the partisan crowd, which was highly favorable to the Atlantics. The score stood 8-6 in favor of the Excelsiors in five innings. The Excelsiors played Leggett, c.; Creighton, p.; Russell, Holder, J. Whiting, basemen; Reynolds, ss.; Hanly, Polhemus, Brainard, fielders. Atlantic — Pearce, c.; M. O'Brien, p.; Price, Oliver, Smith, basemen; J. J. Oliver, McMahon, Hamilton, fielders. The clubs never met again. In this year the Excelsiors made a brilliant trip, playing in New York State, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, greatly popularizing the game. The great rivalry excited by this series would have been continued in other directions, and the game would have spread much faster and wider and been far more popular, had it not been for the outbreak of the Rebellion, which caused a great lull in the sport, and for several years there was very little done of prominence.

At Hoboken, Oct. 21, 1861, representative nines of New York and Brooklyn played at Hoboken before some 15,000 people. The New York side, on which Harry Wright played third base, was composed of the crack players of the Knickerbocker, Eagle, Gotham, Empire, and Mutual clubs, while on the Brooklyn side was the strongest material that the Excelsiors, Atlantics, and Eckfords could present. For the latter team Pearce caught and Creighton pitched, Reade playing right field and Beach shortstop. It was a close game up to the ninth inning, when, with the score standing 10-6 in favor of Brooklyn, the Brooklynians made no less than eight runs. Pearce has now commenced his fourth decade as a ball tosser; his experience dating clear back to 1856. He played with the Atlantics as early as 1856. At this period the Athletics of Philadelphia showed themselves to be very strong, and gave promise of great things in the future.

BASE BALL LEGISLATION.

Amendments to the rules now began to have an important effect upon the game and to make it more modern. The rule of running bases did not allow the runner to leave his base after a fly until the ball had been in the pitcher's hands, and had been once pitched to

the bat. This rule prevailed until 1859, when the present rule was adopted. Efforts were made in 1860 at two conventions to abolish the "out" on a fair fly, but it was twice defeated, the second time 51-42. Fly games were allowed, however, by mutual consent. In 1861 an attempt was made, similar to the one in 1868, to give the game to the club having the most runs in an uncompleted inning, thus not compelling the leading club to go to the bat in the last half of a ninth inning. At the convention of 1863, the committee on rules again reported in favor of the fly game, and was again voted down. An important move was made in regard to the pitcher, compelling him to stand perfectly still while delivering the ball, without taking a step forward, in a space twelve feet by three feet. Now, for the first time, called balls were introduced, to punish the pitcher for bad balls delivered, just as the striker had been previously punished for not striking at good balls. Base runners, before allowed to go around on near bases in a circuit, had to touch them. In the convention of 1864 the catch of a fair ball on the bound no longer put a man out, as the fly game was adopted by a vote of 32-19. In 1865 the rule dividing the professionals and amateurs was adopted by a nearly unanimous vote of the representatives of almost two hundred clubs. In 1867 the latter was prevented from taking a forward or backward step in striking at the ball upon the penalty of "no strike." This was a very confusing feature of the play of the previous season, it being attempted to help base running. The pitcher now stood in a space six feet square. The batter could take steps forward, provided he had one foot back of the line of his position when he struck at the ball. The rule relating to compensation described as professionals all who were paid for their services either by "money, place, or emolument." Mr. A. P. Gorman, now Senator Gorman, was elected president of the National Association of Base Ball Players at the meeting held in Clinton Hall, New York, Dec. 12, 1866, when there were over two hundred clubs represented.

Meanwhile the game had made its way West as far back as 1857. Chicago had a crack team, the Excelsiors, which went to Rockford, Ill., in 1864, and won no end of glory by defeating the famous Forest Citys of that place. The Atlantics were another Chicago club that

played on the north side, but did not have the prestige of the Excelsiors. Base-ball got a great boom in this region from the tournaments held there. The Excelsiors won the one held in Bloomington, Ill., in 1866, and the one in Rockford in 1867.

To return to the East. In 1862 the Eckfords of Brooklyn won the supremacy from the Atlantics, and held it clear through the season of 1863, in which year they did not lose a single game, — a feat since dupli-



JOSEPH START, THE VETERAN FIRST BASEMAN.

cated only by Harry Wright's Cincinnati Reds, and they were a professional club. The Atlantics regained their lost honors, however, in 1864, and held them for three years. Their chief competitors were the Athletics of Philadelphia and the Mutuels of New York. The Atlantics did not lose a game in 1864 and 1865, — a feat that has never been equalled. The Unions of Morrisiana won two games out of three from the Atlantics in the latter part of 1867, and thereby won

the nominal championship, which, during the next two seasons, shifted between the leading clubs of New York and Brooklyn. The Athletics of Philadelphia were generally regarded as the champions of 1868, and the Cincinnati in 1869. The New York *Clipper* offered a series of prizes, to be contested for by the leading clubs in the country in 1868, a gold ball for the championship, and gold badges to the players excelling in batting in each position. The Athletics received the ball, while McBride, pitcher, Radcliff, catcher, Fisler, first base, Reach, second base, Sensitive, centre field, of the Athletics; Waterman, third base, Hatfield, left field, Johnson, right field, of the Cincinnati; and George Wright, shortstop, of the Unions of Morrisiana, received the medals.

The Athletics of Philadelphia gained renown by going through the season of 1866 with but two defeats. Of course, clubs played fewer games than nowadays. Their only defeats in the season referred to were at the hands of the Atlantics of Brooklyn, and the Unions of Morrisiana, N. Y. The feeling between the Brooklyn and Philadelphia boys ran very high, in fact much higher than at the present time between their successors. They were to meet in Philadelphia, Oct. 1, 1866, and it was estimated that the crowd, outside and inside of the grounds, that gathered to see the game, numbered 40,000, the largest crowd ever known to have gathered to see a base ball contest. The crowd was so great that after one inning had been played it was found impossible to continue the game, and it was postponed until Oct. 22. To prevent a repetition of the former scene, an admission fee of \$1 was charged, the largest fee up to that time ever asked for a ball game, yet 2,000 paid for the privilege of going inside the gates, while several thousand stood outside of the grounds. The Athletics rolled up 31 runs to 12 for their opponents in seven innings, when the umpire called the game on account of darkness. A dispute about gate money prevented the clubs from playing any more that season.

Baltimore became a great centre of base ball in the very early days of the game, and the Excelsiors were in the field in 1857, the Waverlys in 1857, and the Baltimores in 1859. Another club disputed with the latter for the title; and in a game played for the name, the first-formed club won, 27-18. As early as 1861, Baltimore met a Washington nine

on the diamond, the Pastimes of Baltimore defeating the Nationals of Washington.

Massachusetts had become a hot-bed of base ball, but the feeling had not grown so intense and so partisan as in New York, and therefore not so professional. There was no professional base ball at all in the State until a professional association was started. This was not so elsewhere toward the close of the sixties. A good example of the



A. J. REACH, PRESIDENT OF THE PHILADELPHIA BASE BALL CLUB.

base ball of the olden day is the game at Medway, Oct. 11, 1859, when the Excelsiors of Upton and Unions of Medway played under the old Massachusetts rules. The game lasted two days, occupying eleven hours. Eighty innings were played, there being but one out to an inning, and the final score was 100-56 in favor of the Excelsiors. It was thought wonderful because sixteen consecutive innings were played without a run on the second day. The Trimoun-

tains, the crack club of its day, was organized in 1858. It played but one match game that year, defeating the Portlands, Sept. 8, 47-42. The Atwaters of Westfield were also in the field this season, with Reuben Noble as one of the players. In 1859 the Trimountains beat the Portlands two games, and were beaten by the Bowdoin, a new club of Boston, 32-26. The famous Lowells of Boston, named after John A. Lowell, were organized as a junior club, March 18, 1861. Their only match game that year was with the Medfords, whom they beat 17-10. Among the players were "Foxy" Wilder, catcher, and Jimmy Lovett, shortstop. Games in those days were mostly scrub games, played between members of the same club or by such players as were found on the Common, where the games were played. The youngsters had the ground in the early afternoon, and the young men afterward. The catcher stood near the Beacon Street mall. The contests were watched by large and interested crowds. Mr. Lowell saw at once that in order to have a successful club there must be plenty of practice. The team was first formed of English High and Latin School boys. In 1862 the Lowells again succumbed to the Bowdoin, 23-14. In this year the Excelsiors of Brooklyn visited Boston, defeated the Bowdoin, 41-15, and the Trimountain-Lowell nine, consolidated for the occasion, 39-13. Creighton, Brainard, and Ferguson played with the visitors.

The Lowells gained a signal victory in 1863 in their first match with the Trimountains, winning 37-1. The famous silver-ball series was inaugurated in 1864. On July 9 of this year, the Lowells beat the Harvard College nine, 55-25. The Lowells made their first trip this season, and in Brooklyn were defeated, July 19, by the Resolntes, 33-14; July 20, by the Atlantics, 45-17; July 21, by the Excelsiors, 39-31. This was considered as a very good showing for the New-Englanders. Start played first base for the Atlantics, and did the best batting at the series. He made seven runs with but one out. In the fall the Atlantics of Brooklyn visited Boston, defeated the Lowells, Sept. 25, 30-10; Sept. 26, the Trimountains, 107-16; Sept. 27, the Harvards, 58-22. In 1866 the Beacons were organized as a junior club, and though defeated by the Lowell second nine, 71-46, their showing was highly praised and a bright future prophe-

sied. Sixty-six delegates met this year in response to a call to form a junior association. Mr. Lowell played catcher, shortstop, and in the field for the Lowell nine in 1865. In the silver-ball series that year the Trimountains beat the Osceolas, 33-18; the Lowells beat the Trimountains, 33-18, and the Hampshires of Northampton, 84-10. Tremendous excitement was caused in 1865 by the games between the Lowells and the Harvards. The games between these clubs always attracted immense crowds, were well contested and very exciting. Harvard won by two games out of three in this year, 28-17 and 73-37, while Lowell won, 40-37. Lovett did not pitch in the decisive game won by Harvard, which accounts for the large score. In 1866, Lowell defeated Harvard, 37-27, King Philips, 75-17, and the Granites, 47-11. In 1867 the excitement was greater than ever, and over 25,000 people witnessed the three games with Harvard. Lowell won the first at Boston, 37-28; lost the second at Jarvis Field, 26-32; and lost the third at Medford, 28-39. Mr. E. Hicks Hayhurst was summoned from Philadelphia to umpire these games. During the Harvard vacation, a quarrel about the disposal of the silver cup won by Harvard led to its return to the Lowells. In the fall, the Trimountains beat the Lowells, losing the first game, 16-20, but winning the next two, 40-35 and 42-22. The silver-ball series then came to an end, on account of its being melted down and destroyed. There were 15 games for its possession. Lowell won 8, lost 6; Harvard won 4, lost 3; Trimountains won 3, lost 2.

TOURS OF FAMOUS CLUBS.

The Harvard University nine was famous at a very early date as one of the strongest nines in the country. The games were played in Cambridge on the Delta, where Memorial Hall now stands, and in those days the faculty did not frown on the game or prevent the team from playing such nines as it chose. As early as 1866 the Harvards played the Atlantics, Eurekas, Excelsiors, and Actives, in New York, and were beaten, 37-15, 42-39, 46-28, 54-15, a plucky showing, considering that Catcher Flagg's hands were in bad condition. On the Fourth of July the Charter Oak nine, of Hartford, which had thrice

beaten the Yales, was vanquished, 16-14. The Beacons were beaten, 77-11 and 56-20. Williams nine won the championship from Harvard, 39-37. Flagg, Abercrombie, and Hunnewell were regarded as the great men of the team. The latter made 12 runs in one game. The season of 1867 was conspicuous for the winning of the silver ball by Harvard. In June the Harvards made the very creditable showing of 10 against 22 for the Athletics of Philadelphia. In 1868, Harvard defeated Lowell, 39-26; were beaten in practice games by the Lowells, 26-24, 23-20, and won from the Trimountains, 23-11. At Worcester, Harvard beat Yale, 25-17, the lamented Archie Bush catching to Hunnewell's pitching.

In 1869, Harvard made a most successful tour in July. They defeated the Athletics at Philadelphia, 35-21; lost to the Eckfords at Brooklyn, 17-5; defeated the Keystones at Philadelphia, 24-18; defeated the Nationals at Albany, 58-17; were beaten by the Unions of Lansingburg, 22-10. In this year, Cincinnati beat Harvard, 30-11; Yale was beaten, 41-24; Williams, 45-8; and Dartmouth, 48-0. The Fairmounts, one of the crack teams of the State, were beaten, 34-16 and 40-14, and the Lowells, 41-22, 35-19, 39-16, 21-4, 32-14, 36-24. This was evidently no year for Lowell.

It was in 1870, however, that Harvard was agog over its nine. The season began with a victory over Lowell, 28-5. In May a game was played on the Union grounds, which the Athletics of Philadelphia won, 20-8. The Cincinnati then defeated Harvard, 46-15. The club then went on a tour for pleasure and profit, visiting all places of interest on their route. The tour deserves to be ranked with those of the Nationals and Cincinnati before them. The nine won 20 games and lost 6. They opened by beating Yale, 24-22; Rose Hill, 17-2; Haymakers, 25-13; Uticas, 31-23; Forest Citys of Cleveland, 15-7; White Stockings of Chicago, 11-6; Cream Citys of Milwaukee, 41-13; Indianapolis, 45-9; Nationals of Washington, 39-13; Marylands of Baltimore, 44-11; Pastimes of Baltimore, 30-11. They were beaten 14-9 by the Forest Citys of Cleveland, 18-7 by the Olympics of Washington, 22-15 by the Mutuels, 27-9 by the Athletics, 13-4 by the Atlantics, and 20-17 by the Cincinnati Red Stockings. In the latter game Harvard had the game well in hand, when Cincinnati made

eight runs in the last inning, blanked Harvard, and won. Harvard beat Niagara at Lockport, N. Y., 62-4 in five innings, making 36 runs in the third inning. In the Harvard nine were Bush, c.; Goodwin, p.; Perrin, White, Reynolds, basemen; Austin, ss.; Thorpe, Wells, Eustis, fielders. In 1871, Harvard beat Tufts, 32-9; Brown, 42-10, 34-15; Yale, 22-19; Haymakers of Troy, a strong professional club,



GEORGE WRIGHT, THE FAMOUS SHORTSTOP OF HIS DAY.

15-8; Lowell, 14-9; was beaten by Boston, 13-4; Athletics of Philadelphia, 14-6; Olympic of Washington, 17-5; Chicago, 12-2; Eckford of Williamsburg, 15-9. This well shows what the calibre and mettle of the college teams were in those days.

The season of 1867 was a remarkable trip of the National Club of Washington, which was the most extensive ever taken by a club up to that time. The Nationals were composed of government clerks.

They left Washington, July 11, 1867, and won their first game at Columbus, O., defeating the Capitol Club, 90-10. At Cincinnati they defeated Harry Wright's Cincinnati Reds, 53-10, Harry himself pitching. The Nationals played in this game, Berthrong, c., and Williams, p. George Wright played second base. They next whipped the Buckeyes, rivals of the Cincinnati, in Cincinnati, 88-12. At Louisville, National won, 82-21; at Indianapolis the score was 106-21. McVey played second base for the defeated team. At St. Louis, with the thermometer 104 in the shade, they made the Union Club perspire, the score being 113-26. The Empires of St. Louis were beaten, 53-26. The eventful games of the trip were at Chicago and Rockford. Previous to the arrival of the Nationals, the Excelsiors of Chicago had beaten the Forest Citys of Rockford, 45-41 in Chicago, and 28-25 in Rockford. The work of the Nationals was therefore awaited with intense interest. The result made Chicagoans groan. The Forest Citys gave the Nationals the only defeat of their tour, winning 29-23. This made the Excelsiors confident of victory. They were beaten 49-4, this result being a death blow to them. They never got over it. The famous Al Spalding pitched for the Forest Citys. Barnes played shortstop and Addy second base. In the game with the Nationals, which lasted three hours and a half, George Wright made eight runs out of 49 and nine hits out of 37. These were the days of lively hitting, with plenty of home runs. The players of the Nationals and their occupations were as follows: W. F. Williams, p., law student; F. P. Norton, catcher, treasury clerk; G. A. E. Fletcher, first base, clerk in 3d auditor's office; N. C. McLean, clerk, 3d auditor's office; E. A. Parker, l. f., clerk, internal revenue department; E. G. Smith, ss., clerk, 4th auditor's office; S. L. Studley, r. f., clerk in treasury department; N. W. Berthrong, c. f., clerk of comptroller of currency; G. Wright, second base, clerk, 238 Pennsylvania Avenue; A. V. Robinson, clerk; George H. Fox, third base, graduate (1867) Georgetown College.

Up to 1868 the laws of the game forbade the employment of paid players in clubs, but so great had become the rivalry between clubs that professionalism worked its way into base ball, and the rule became a dead letter. At the convention of 1868, the district classes

were made, and in 1869 the first regular professional nine, the famous Cincinnati Red Stockings, were organized, and signalized their appearance by not losing a game during the whole campaign, playing clubs between Maine and California. They won fifty-six games, tied one, and scored 2,389 runs to 574. The personnel of the team was as follows: D. Allison, c.; Brainard, p.; Gould, first base; Sweazy,



ADRIAN C. ANSON, CAPTAIN OF THE CHICAGO BASE BALL CLUB.

second base; Waterman, third base; George Wright, ss.; Leonard, l. f.; Harry Wright, c. f.; McVey, r. f. First defeating the prominent Western clubs, they defeated the Forest Citys of Cleveland, 25-6; the Haymakers of Troy, one of the first professional clubs, 38-31; the Harvard College nine, 30-11; Mutuals of New York, 4-2, a phenomenal game for this period; Atlantics of Brooklyn, 32-10;

Eckfords of Brooklyn, 24-5; Irvingtons, 20-4; Athletics of Philadelphia, 27-18; Nationals of Washington, 24-8; Forest Citys of Rockford, 34-13. These were the strongest clubs of the country, and it will be noticed that they held their strong opponents down remarkably well for the days of large scores. The club went to St. Louis and then to San Francisco, and upon their return, defeated the Athletics again, 17-12, and the Mutuals, 17-8. In this season the Cincinnatiats defeated the Forest Citys of Rockford, 15-14, making three runs in the ninth inning, and defeating their opponents. Barnes played shortstop, Addy caught, Hastings played second base, and Spalding pitched for the Forest Citys. In 1870, the Atlantics of Brooklyn were the first to shatter the prestige of the Cincinnatiats Reds, defeating them, June 14, on the Capitoline grounds, Brooklyn, 8-7; losing at Cincinnatiats, Sept. 2, 14-3, and winning the decisive game, Oct. 26, in Philadelphia, 11-7. During the summer of '70 the Harvard College nine visited Cincinnatiats, and all but scored a glorious victory. They led the professionals 17-11 in seven innings, the Cincinnatiats having their strongest nine in the field. In the ninth inning Pitcher Goodwin was hit by a hot liner and injured. This resulted in the scoring of eight runs by the professionals, who won the game, 20-17. The Cincinnatiats made seven runs after two men were out. The Harvard nine consisted of Bush, c.; Goodwin, p.; Perrin, 1 b.; White, 2 b.; Reynolds, 3 b.; Austin, ss.; Thorp, 1. f.; Wells, c. f.; Eustis, r. f. The success of the Cincinnatiats placed professional base ball on a sure footing. Among the clubs in the field in 1870 were the Cincinnatiats, Athletics, Atlantics, with such well-known players as Ferguson, Zettlein, Start, Pike, Pearce, Chapman, and George Hall; Chicagos, with Wood, Meyerle, Tracey, Cuthbert; Forest Citys of Rockford; Forest Citys of Cleveland, with James White, c.; Pratt, p.; Sutton, 3 b., and Allison, c. f.; the Haymakers, with McGeary, c.; McMullen, p.; Fisher, 1 b., and York, c. f.; the Mutuals, with Charles Mills, c.; E. Mills, p.; Nelson, 3 b.; Hatfield, ss.; Eggler, c. f.; Marylands, with Matthews, p., and Carey, ss.; Nationals, with Hicks, c.; Glenn, 1. f.; Hollingshead, 2 b.; Olympics, with Davy Force, ss., and Berthrong, r. f.; Unions, with Birdsall, c.; Pabor, p.; Higham, 2 b.; Holdsworth, 3 b., and Gedney,

l. f. Of these men, James White, Nelson, Force, and Matthews are on the diamond to-day, after an experience of seventeen years. The Athletics, Cincinnati, Chicagos, Clevelands, Haymakers, Mutuals, and Marylands were paid regular salaries. The others were co-operative nines, who played for gate money. The next year saw in the arena the well-known veterans, Burdock and Clinton. Beside those veterans mentioned among the players, Ferguson, Pearce, Cuthbert, Malone, Reach, Al Spalding, George Wright, Harry Wright, and York are connected with base ball to-day, either as umpires or managers, or in a business way.

THE PROFESSIONAL CAMPAIGNS.

On March 17, 1871, the first convention of delegates from representative professional clubs was held at Collier's Saloon, corner of Broadway and Thirteenth Street, and a series of best three in five games was arranged. The contesting nines were the Athletic of Philadelphia, Chicago, Boston, Mutual of New York, Olympic of Washington, Haymaker of Troy, Kekionga of Fort Wayne, Ind., Cleveland, and Rockford. The championship was won by the Athletics, who won 22 games and lost 7; 22 victories and 10 defeats for the Bostons. Two victories of the Rockfords over the Athletics were adjudged forfeited games, for the reason that a Rockford player was not entitled to play; yet a game won by the Olympics from the Bostons was adjudged legal, though the same point was raised. The Athletics were composed of Malone, c.; McBride, p.; Foster, Reach, Meyerle, basemen; Radcliff, ss.; Cuthbert, Sensenderfer, Heubell, r. f.; Bechtel and Tom Pratt, substitutes. The Bostons won 3 games out of 4 from the champions. The Boston nine consisted of McVey, c.; Spalding, p.; Gould, Barnes, Shafer, basemen; George Wright, ss.; Cone, Harry Wright, Birdsall, fielders; Jackson and Burrows, substitutes.

In 1872, eleven clubs entered the lists, they being Boston, Baltimore, Mutual, Athletic, Troy, Atlantic, Cleveland, Mansfield (Ct.), Eckford of Brooklyn, Olympic and National of Washington. The series now consisted of five games, Boston won with McVey, c.;

Spalding, p.; Gould, Barnes, Shafer, basemen; George Wright, ss.; Leonard, II. Wright, Rogers, fielders; Birdsall, substitute. The Bostons won 39 games and lost but 8. The Bostons won easily in this campaign, as indeed they did in every season up to the forming of the National League in 1876, a result due to able management, entire harmony and unanimity, and the fact that the club was not surrounded with any bad influences. The club was organized at the Parker House, Boston, Jan. 20, 1871, and Mr. Ivers W. Adams was largely instrumental in its formation. Harry and George Wright were both present at the meeting, and the result was the formation of a team of players that was almost invincible from the day that it took the field until its four strongest players left to win the first league championship for the Chicago Base Ball Club. The club played its first game against a picked nine April 6, 1871, winning by a score of 41-10, the nine opposed being the strongest amateur nine that could be secured. The two most exciting games played by the Bostons in 1871 and 1872 were with the Chicagos, Sept. 5, 1871, when the Bostons made all of their six runs in the fifth inning, Charles Gould making the memorable home run over the left field fence when the bases were full, and winning the game for his side; score, 6-3. The Chicagos made one run in each of the first three innings, and neither side scored in the last four innings. The present president of the league umpired the game. The opening game of the season in 1872, May 11, was with the Mutuals of New York, who led the Bostons 2-1 up to the ninth inning. In that inning the Bostons made three runs, and won 4 runs to 2. In August of this year, the Bostons took a Michigan and Canadian trip, defeating the Ypsilantis, 40-3; Empires of Detroit 35-2; Athletics of London, 52-3; Maple Leafs at Guelph, 29-7; Dauntless at Toronto, 68-0; Independents at Dundas, 52-4; Ottawa, 64-1; Montreals, 63-3; Pastimes at Ogdensburg, N. Y., 66-1. Base ball having been so well established in Canada at that time, it would seem that Canada ought to have had a professional league long ago. Perhaps the decisive defeats were discouraging.

One of the most important amendments in 1872 was that doing away with the prohibition of delivering the ball to the bat by an underhand throw, which had long been a dead letter. Creighton, of the Excelsiors of Brooklyn, introduced this kind of delivery.

The Bostons again won the championship in 1873, with a record of 43 victories, 16 defeats, to 36 victories and 17 defeats for the Philadelphias. The contesting clubs were the Bostons, Philadelphias, Baltimores, Mutuals, Athletics, Atlantics, Washingtons, Resolutes, and Marylands, and they finished the season in that order. Each club had to play nine games for a full series, and four had to be played with every club before they could be counted at the end of the season.



JOHN M. WARD, THE BRAINY NEW YORK SHORTSTOP.

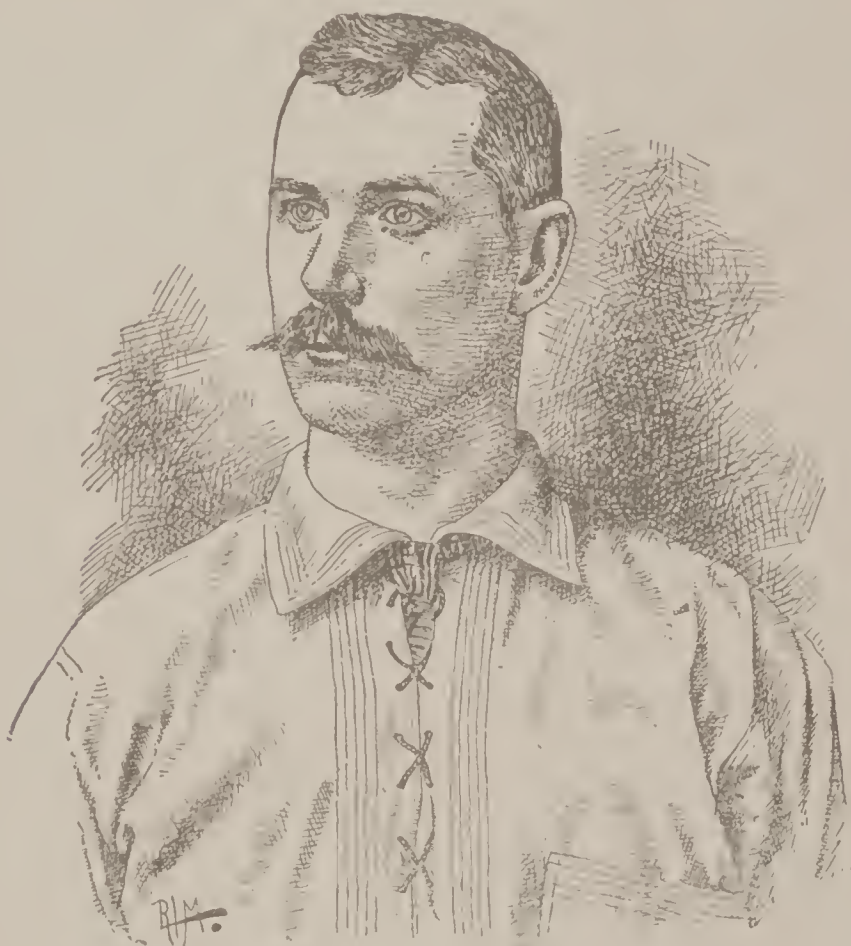
The champion nine comprised White, c.; Spalding, p.; Manning, Burns, Shafer, basemen; George Wright, ss.; Leonard, Harry Wright, Sweazy, fielders; Birdsall, substitute. O'Rourke and Addy also played with the nine during the season. The season was one of surprises in the many sharply played and extra-inning contests. On May 14 it took 13 innings for the Philadelphias to beat the Athletics, 5-4. June 3 the Bostons beat the Mutuals at Brooklyn, 6-5, in

12 innings. John J. Burdock umpired the game, and the Bostons won by superior fielding. July 21 the Baltimores beat the Athletics, 12-11, in a 13-inning game. But the best and longest professional game up to that time was played at Brooklyn, Sept. 12, when the Philadelphias beat the Athletics, 3-2, 14 innings. Zettlein pitched for Philadelphia, and Brett for the Atlantics. In the latter nine were: Pearce, ss.; Burdock, 2 b.; Ferguson, 3 b.; Dehlman, 1 b.; Remsen, c. f.; and Pabor, l. f. On the Philadelphias: Mack, 1 b.; Wood, 2 b.; Devlin, 3 b.; Fulmer, ss.; Cuthbert, l. f.; Treacy, c. f.; Bechtel, r. f., and Malone, c. Then, as to-day, games which require more than the usual number of nine innings to decide their result were regarded as the most remarkable and interesting, and in the days of large scores many have thought such contests as almost impossible. One of the first extra-inning games, June 30, 1854, between the Gothams and Knickerbockers in New York, required 16 innings to decide it. It was played near what is now 106th Street and Second Avenue. In those days, however, the game was won by the nine making 21 runs or over in an even innings, and this total was often made in one or two innings. The same clubs played a 12-inning game the same year, the score standing 12 to 12. Eleven years later, in 1865, the Gothams defeated the Enterprise Club of Brooklyn, 19-18, in 13 innings.

In 1874, the Bostons again won the pennant, their success being due to team work and harmony, over clubs at which changes in personnel were frequent and discipline inferior. They won 52 games, lost 18, and played one tie game. The Mutuals were second, with 42 victories 23 defeats. The other clubs participating were the Athletics, Philadelphias, Chicagos, Atlantics, Hartford, and Baltimores. The series of games was increased to 10, with five in a quota necessary to count. The Hartford made their first appearance and did well, but lacked in organization. The Boston players were as follows: White, c.; Spalding, p.; O'Rourke, Barnes, Shafer, basemen; George Wright, ss.; Leonard, Harry Wright, McVey, outfielders; Hall and Beals, substitutes. In this season N. E. Young, William McLean, C. J. Sweazy, Charles Daniels, A. G. Hodges, were among the umpires of the season.

BASE BALL SEEN IN ENGLAND.

The season of 1874 was memorable for the trip of the Boston and Athletic clubs to England. The clubs left Philadelphia on the steamship Ohio, July 16 of that year. The Athletic contingent numbered 38 persons, including the following players: McBride, Clapp, Anson, McGear, Sutton, Battin, Gedney, McMullen, Murnane, Fisl, and



ROGER CONNOR, ONE OF THE HARD HITTERS.

Sensenderfer. Al Reach was unable to go on account of business engagements. Boston sent Harry Wright, George Wright, Spalding, Barnes, Shafer, McVey, Leonard, O'Rourke, Hall, Beals, Kent, and Sam Wright. Kent, first baseman of the Harvards, replaced James White. The tourists arrived in Liverpool July 27. Fourteen games of base ball were played at Liverpool, Manchester, London, Sheffield, and Dublin; the Bostons winning eight games and the Athletics six.

The Englishmen were not a little astonished at the wonderful celerity and dexterity displayed by the base-ballists in fielding. The scores in most of the games were large, owing to the speedy grounds played upon. In cricket, the 18 Americans met with great success, defeating the Marylebone, Prince's, and Surrey clubs in London, the Sheffield Club, Manchester Club, and the All Ireland Club in Dublin. The Richmond game was drawn on account of rain. It was not exactly as if green cricket players had visited the old country, for Harry, George, and Sam Wright were all first-class players, and the first two were excellent bowlers, while McBride showed up well as a bowler. George Wright bore the palm for the largest score in a match, rolling up 50 runs at Manchester. The trip was a financial failure, yet both clubs were successful enough in the games at home to show a balance in the treasury at the close of the season. Nothing occurred to mar the pleasure of the participants, and all spoke highly of their experience and their treatment while abroad. The ball tossers left the other side Aug. 27 on the steamship Abbotsford, and after a stormy voyage arrived in Philadelphia, Sept. 9.

Thirteen clubs entered the lists in 1875 — Boston, Athletic, Hartford, St. Louis, Philadelphia, Chicago, Mutual, New Haven, Red Stockings of St. Louis, Washington. Centennial of Philadelphia, Atlantic and Western of Keokuk. The Westerns, Centennials, and New Havens did not live long. Ten games constituted a series, with six as a quota. At the close of the season, only seven clubs had played the quota. The Bostons won with greater ease than ever, and made a record unequalled in a championship season, with a record of 71 victories, 8 defeats. The Athletics were second, with 53 victories, 20 defeats. The Bostons were made up of White, c.; Spalding, p.; McVey, Barnes, Shafer, basemen; George Wright, ss.; Leonard, O'Rourke, Manning, fielders; Beals, Harry Wright, Heifert, substitutes. The most noteworthy contest on record up to that time was played June 19, at Chicago, when the Chicagos defeated the Mutuals, 1-0, in ten innings. This was the first time that club had failed to score in nine innings.

The term "Chicago," for the blanking of a team, sprang from the game at Chicago, July 23, 1870, when the Mutuals of New York

defeated the Chicagos, 9-0. Up to that time, games in which one side had failed to score had been few, and such teams as the Unions of Morrisiana, and Resolutes of Elizabeth had been "white-washed." The first authenticated case was Nov. 8, 1860, when the Excelsiors of Brooklyn, with Creighton in the box, disposed of a nine from the St. George's Cricket Club without allowing them a run. Jan. 5, 1870, the Cincinnati Red Stockings administered to the Unions of Morrisiana the worst defeat that club ever received, the figures being 14-0. A month before, the Atlantics had beaten the Resolutes of Elizabeth, 19-0, and on Aug. 18, the Forest Citys of Cleveland defeated the Eckfords at Brooklyn, 13-0. The Bostons were "Chicagoed" for the first time at Boston, June 14, 1872, 3-0, by the Athletics.

FORMATION OF THE LEAGUE.

In 1876 the National League of Professional Base Ball Clubs was formed Feb. 2, at New York city. It was thought that the National Association had been unable to drive many evils out of the ranks, among them pool selling and gambling, and in answer to a circular dated Chicago, Jan. 23, 1876, signed by William A. Hurlbert and Charles A. Towle, and sent to the Boston, Hartford, Athletic, and Mutual clubs, a representative meeting was held, at which these clubs were represented, as well as the Louisville, Cincinnati, and St. Louis clubs. M. G. Bulkeley, of Hartford, acted as chairman, and Harry Wright, of Boston, as secretary. A new constitution was adopted. Special rules were made governing the engagement of players for the first time, and united contracts were provided for. Rigorous rules were adopted to prevent the "revolving" of players, and dishonesty and irregularity. The first president was M. G. Bulkeley, and N. E. Young was elected the secretary—a position he has ever since retained. The pitcher was required to deliver the ball with the arm swinging nearly perpendicular at the side of his body; but the rule failed of the desired effect. The idea was to compel the pitcher, in swinging his arm, to keep the hand below the line of his hip, and thus do away with the underhand throw. Nine bad balls gave a man his base. Fair fouls, where the ball going foul

before it reached third base was allowed as fair if it first struck the ground inside of the bases, were still in vogue. Of the players under engagement in the first year of the league, Force, Sutton, O'Rourke, White, Anson, Hines, Jones, Burdock, Snyder, Gerhardt, Matthews, and Battin are still on the diamond, and of them, Force, Sutton, White, Matthews, and Burdock date back to the formation of the first professional base ball association. This season was famous for the fact that the Boston nine—champions for five consecutive seasons—was deprived of four of its best players,—Barnes, McVey, Spalding, and White,—who joined the Chicagos, thereby causing great mourning in the camp of the Bostons. This transfer almost crippled the Bostons, and they came in a very bad fourth. The clubs that participated in the season were the Chicago, Hartford, St. Louis, Boston, Louisville, Mutual, Athletic, and Cincinnati clubs. The Chicagos won the championship, winning 52 games and losing 14, to 47 won and 21 lost for the Hartfords. The Chicagos were made up of White, c.; Spalding, p.; McVey, Barnes, Anson, basemen; Peters, ss.; Glenn, Hines, Addy, fielders; Bielaski, Andrus, substitutes. The series this season consisted of ten games.

At the close of the season the Athletic and Mutual clubs were expelled for not playing return games with every other league club. Among the prominent non-league clubs this year were the Buckeye of Columbus, O.; Fall River, Mass.; Rhode Island, Providence, Allegheny, Pa.; St. Louis Reds, Stars of Syracuse, Indianapolis, Cricket of Binghamton, Active of Reading, Quickstep of Wilmington, Del.

No department in the game of base ball has undergone so many changes since its origin as that of the pitcher. Transitions have been going on and improvements have been made year after year, and the experimental stage, even at this date, has not been passed. From the straight arm and strategic work of Asa Brainard, of the Cincinnati nine of '69, Al Spalding, of the Bostons, and Dick McBride, of the Athletics, the delivery became a square, underhanded throw, beautifully exemplified by Thomas H. Bond, of the Bostons. From about the year 1874, the delivery became more and more of a throw, the arm rising higher and higher, and the curve came into effect. How it originated has not been satisfactorily explained,

there being conflicting claims in the amateur and professional ranks as to the credit of the discovery. By common consent, Arthur Cummings, who played in the Stars of Brooklyn, and afterward in the Mutuals of New York, was conceded the priority among professional pitchers. Cummings seems to have acquired the curve unconsciously,



JOHN G. CLARKSON.

The \$10,000 Pitcher.

and his delivery was considered very peculiar by the profession. He was regarded as a wonder as far back as 1869. He was pitching against a picked nine one day, and noticed the ball curving. He had no difficulty in striking the batsman out, and went home that night and tried to study out the phenomenon.

The next day he invited some gentlemen friends out to see him work. They laughed at him, and when he tried to convince them

that he could accomplish what he claimed, he failed, as no doubt in his anxiety he sent the ball too fast, and very little curve can be got out of a speedy-pitched ball. He was not discouraged, however, but went out with his catcher the next day and learned that the curve came from a certain twist he gave his wrist. He worked hard until he got a good control of the new move, and then astonished the base ball scientific world. Cummings was of slight build, his pitching was very graceful, and his curve was of the sailing kind, much like that of Carruthers of the St. Louis Browns.

Bobby Matthews, now of the Athletics, watched Cummings's delivery very carefully, and soon succeeded in acquiring the knack. Al Spalding, McBride, Pratt, and others were forced to retire when pitching became obsolete and throwing was substituted. So were Bond and pitchers of less note compelled to withdraw when the high throwing came into vogue. The college pitchers also proved themselves very skilful in the use of the curve at a very early date. Some claim that Mann, a Princeton pitcher, was the first to use it, while others claim that it was Avery, of Yale. The latter pitcher proved a veritable puzzler to the strong Harvard batsmen, who were utterly unable to fathom his delivery. Mann had very little control of the ball and little or no strategy, while Avery had excellent control over the ball, combined with good judgment.

Fred Nichols, in 1875, McCormick of the Stars of Syracuse, the "only" Nolan of Columbus, and Bobby Matthews were the earliest to become proficient in curve pitching.

From the days of Creighton, of the old Excelsior nine of 1860, who then had no peer in his position, up to the season of 1886, some very fine work had been accomplished in base ball pitching, notably so during 1885. But the large majority of professional pitchers still have a great deal to learn, even in these days of the advanced condition of the art, before they can reach the comparatively high mark Creighton did in the earlier history of base ball pitching. After Creighton came Martin, of the old Mutual nine, the feature of whose delivery was his marked skill as a strategist, his forte in pitching being his tossing in a slow ball, which was either missed by the puzzled batsman or sent up in the air so as to be easily caught. His most noteworthy successor, Spalding, of the champion Boston team

from 1871 to 1876, was the ablest strategic pitcher ever seen in the "box" from the days of Creighton up to the time of the general introduction of the swift curved line method of delivery.

Long after ball tossers became satisfied that a ball could be curved,



M. J. KELLY, THE GREAT ALL-AROUND PLAYER.

\$10,000 "Kel."

the public were incredulous, and tests were publicly made in many places to satisfy them. The tests were much like the following:

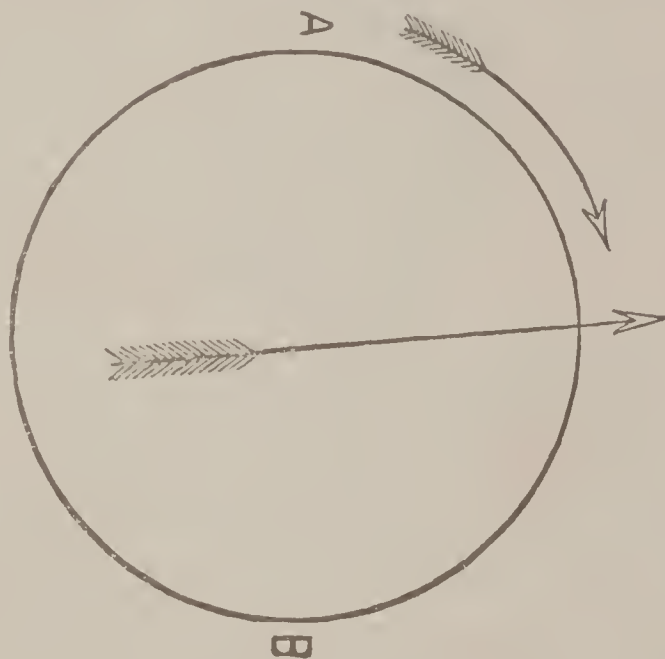
Two fences five feet high and seven feet long were placed in line with each other and some distance apart. A third and intermediate fence was placed at right angles to the other two fences and about midway between them.

The pitcher and catcher stood at their respective fences. The sole object of the fences was to prevent the pitcher from giving his arm an outward swing, and to compel the catcher to receive the ball only after it had finished its curve. On the first two efforts the ball struck the intervening fence, but by this time the pitcher had learned his distances, and each time after that the ball made a clean curve.

With a view of settling the vexed question as to whether a pitcher can or can not curve a ball, practical experiments were made at Cincinnati, O., on Saturday, Oct. 20, when the Bostons and Cincinnati played a match. A line running parallel with the line from the home plate to the first base bag was taken as a straight line for the trial. On the Cincinnati grounds it runs north and south. The pitcher was placed at the south end of it, opposite the home plate. Midway between the home plate and the first base was placed a section of a paling fence, one end resting on the line, and the other pointing toward the infield, at the right angles. This, of course, formed a barrier to the ball started on the west side of the line, unless it should cross over to the east side. Another section of the fence was placed at right angles to the line opposite the first base, but being on the east side of the line. Then, at the south end, a board was placed on end on the line. Bond, the pitcher of the Bostons, was placed on the west side of the board and a little behind it, so that he was obliged to deliver the ball from the west side of the line. It was for him to demonstrate that the ball could be made to leave his hand on the west side of the line, cross over to the east side, so as to avoid the fence on the west side, and recross to the west side to avoid the other fence. Bond at first sent the ball against the edge of the board, but after several trials he was able to clear that, and, sending the ball fairly around the middle barrier, landed it on the same side it started from, at the other end of the line. The curve was not only visible to the eye, but it was shown beyond possibility of dispute. The demonstration was greeted with shouts of applause. Mitchell, who is left-handed, was next called out. The barriers were reversed to suit his position, and he too succeeded in sending a curver that swung around the middle barrier and was caught fully a foot to the east of the final barrier.

Nothing is more interesting than the study how the curve of the ball is produced, and many noted scientists have given their attention to the matter.

In explaining the curve, Professor Stone, of Cincinnati Observatory, says: "The ball on leaving the hand of the pitcher is given a rapid rotary motion. The motion of the ball through the air causes a compression of the air in front, and leaves a vacuum behind, and as a result the ball, by its friction on the air, and by reason of the 'twist' which has been given it, rolls on the air immediately in front, and

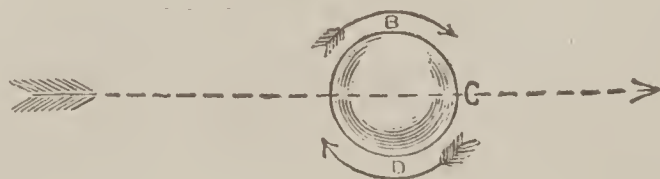


against which it presses. The 'curves' of the ball will, of course, take a direction in accordance with the 'twist' given it."

Professor Nelson, of Kenyon College, Ohio, says: "By looking at the diaphragm accompanying, it can be seen easily that the side of the ball marked 'A' moves more rapidly than that marked 'B'; therefore, the atmospheric resistance is greater at A, and deflects the ball, as shown in each case. There can be no difficulty in understanding this explanation. Any one can see that the side of the ball rotating toward the catcher moves faster than the side rotating from him. Of course, at that side there must be greater atmospheric resistance, and a consequent pressure from that side."

A student at the Naval Academy at Annapolis, in the *St. Nicholas Magazine*, gives a very full and interesting account of the curve:

“ The ball in its flight is retarded in its forward motion by the resistance in the air, which acts upon it precisely as though the ball were at rest, and the wind blowing against it at a rate equal to the motion of the ball. This exerts a pressure on the front of the ball and a friction on its sides, just as the water so manifestly does upon a vessel. If the ball is merely moving straight forward, the friction is the same on top and bottom, right and left, and the effect is only to slow the forward motion. But if the ball rotates as well as moves forward, we have a changed relation—a part of the ball’s surface is moving against the air with greater rapidity than the rest, as a diagram will make clear. If the ball (or strictly its centre of gravity) is moving forward, (let us say at the rate of 100 feet per second,) and at the same time it is revolving so that points on its equator are travelling around its centre at an equal rate, it is evident that *d* is travel-



ling backward as fast as the ball, as a whole, moves forward, while *b* is moving forward at its own rate plus that of the centre; that is, twice as fast as *c*. As the friction or the air increases with the velocity of the moving object, it must be greatest at *b*, and least at *d*, being really zero at *d* under the conditions given. The *b* side of the ball is, therefore, retarded more than the centre or any other part, while the *d* side suffers no retardation. The result must be a curve toward the retarded side. When the rotation is on a nearly vertical axis, this effect will be at its maximum, and, according to the direction of its ‘twist,’ the ball will curve to the right or to the left—‘in’ or ‘out.’

“ In this explanation the effect of gravity is assumed to be nearly a constant force, and not knowing the approximate velocity of ‘swift pitching,’ I do not attempt to consider whether the resistance of the air is proportional in this case to the first power, the square or the cube of the velocity.”

One can readily see what a number of curves and what an amount of knowledge to control them the first-class pitcher has to possess,

and that there is little room for wonder that so many first-class men in this position are demanded in a first-class club. Dr. Leuf, of Philadelphia, a base ball enthusiast, estimates that a pitcher delivers about 180 balls in a game. He says: "Do not pitch when you have an off day; when you do not feel able to do yourself justice, don't try to pitch hard. Let your average be considered less than your arm; but, to be in good form, a pitcher must practise about an hour



T. J. KEEFE, THE STRATEGIC LEAGUE PITCHER.

morning and afternoon, holidays included. All exercise should be taken in the sun. If the thermometer is below 60, vigorous pitching is risky, and the danger increases as the temperature falls. Never use liniments. They are no good. Rubbing, too, is bad. Hot water is good, as is also mild galvanism."

T. J. Keefe, of the New Yorks, has given the following methods of delivery: For a straight ball, hold the ball between the two fore-

fingers and the thumb, and throw the ball straight from the shoulder with as much speed as possible, care being taken to retain command of the sphere. If the batsman stands forward well up to the plate, and moves up in the act of striking, the proper ball to deliver would be the in ball, *i. e.*, a straight ball over the inside corner of the plate; if he stands well away from the plate, and has a habit of stepping back, the proper point to strive for will be the outside portion of the plate.

For an out-curve, slow ball, hold the ball well pressed in the palm of the hand with the last three fingers. Deliver it with the same motion as is used with the straight ball over the outside corner of the plate, except that the wrist should be twisted so as to turn the hand upwards in delivering the ball.

For an out-curve, swift ball, the ball should be held as in the delivery of a straight ball. Hold it tightly between the forefinger and thumb, and the motion of letting it leave the hand should be done with such a quick snap of the wrist as to allow the hand to turn under as much as possible.

For a swift drop ball, hold the hand directly under the ball, and in delivering let it slide off the ends of the fingers. The arm must be brought nearly straight up and down with the body in this delivery, the ball being kept at the height of the knee, the lower the better, as more of a drop can be acquired to deceive the batter.

In the in-shoot, throw the ball out from the shoulder, letting it pass off the ends of the first two fingers. It is a ball that should be worked on the inside corner of the plate, and that should have more speed to it than the out-curve. It should shoot in very quick just before reaching the plate. If the batter has a habit of stepping back from the plate, the ball should be worked from the outside corner.

In the rise ball, hold the ball in the same manner as in the out-curve. When delivering, stoop over, throwing the hand well under and out from the body. Never pitch a ball to a right-handed batter above the waist, if possible, and for a left-handed batter, keep it high and over his shoulder. It is a ball that should have plenty of speed.

About this time, too, was invented the catcher's mask, which has become an indispensable article in modern base ball. In the earlier

days of the game, catchers faced the pitchers pluckily and "ducked" in cases of hot fouls, trusting to luck. Many was the black eye received, but serious injuries were few. With the introduction of curved pitching, the mask, heavy gloves, and a protection for the breast became a necessity, and thousands of these articles are yearly sold. The mask was invented by F. W. Thayer, captain of the Harvard University Base Ball Club, in 1876-77, in order to enable James A.



FREDERICK K. STEARNS, ONE OF THE LEADING LOVERS OF THE GAME.

Tyng, now under engagement to the Philadelphia Base Ball Club, to face the swift pitching of the still well-remembered Harold C. Ernst. First experimenting on the idea of the fencing mask, he produced a cumbersome affair. Thayer took his invention to Boston, and showed it to professionals. They laughed at it at first, but soon saw its utility. Heretofore the only protection catchers had used was the catchers' rubber held between their teeth. The mask was first worn in a game at Lynn, and created great amusement. The most recent

mask is much more convenient and improved, and interferes much less with the sight than that first introduced by Mr. Thayer. The mask was in general use in 1878.

The first annual meeting of the league was held at Cleveland, O., Dec. 7, 1876. The Boston, Louisville, Chicago, Hartford, St. Louis, Cincinnati, and Athletic clubs were represented. Mr. W. A. Hurlbert, of Chicago, was elected president, and N. E. Young, of Washington, secretary. The visiting clubs in games were voted fifteen cents for each admission to a game. The home club was to pay the umpire \$5 for his services. Players were required to pay \$30 for their uniform, and fifty cents each day for board during a tour. Fair fouls were abolished, and a special code of scoring rules went into effect for the first time.

Only five clubs participated in the championship struggle of 1877, and Boston won,—31 victories, 17 defeats, to 28 victories, 20 defeats for Louisville; Hartford, St. Louis, and Chicago finishing in that order. The Bostons consisted of Brown, c.; Bond, p.; White, George Wright, Morrill, basemen; Sutton, ss.; Leonard, O'Rourke, Shafer, fielders; Murnane, Will White, substitutes. While the season was a noteworthy one for the fine fielding work done, the evils of the pool box permeated base ball and affected the players, and as a result the Louisville Club expelled James A. Devlin, W. H. Craver, A. H. Nichols, and G. W. Hall for improper action. With clean play the Louisvilles would probably have won the championship, as Devlin was regarded as the finest of the league pitchers.

In 1877 the International Association was organized at Pittsburg, Pa., by clubs from London, Ont., Guelph, Ont., Pittsburg, Lynn, Columbus, Rochester, and Manchester. The Tecumseh nine won with Powers, c.; Goldsmith, p.; G. H. Bradley, Dinnin, Doescher, basemen; Somerville, ss.; Hornung, Magner, Knowdell, fielders; Reid, Spence, substitutes.

The second annual meeting of the league was held at Cleveland, Dec. 5, 1877, and Chicago, Boston, Louisville, Cincinnati, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, and Providence were represented. President Hurlbert and Secretary Young were both re-elected. E. Nolan was expelled for breach of club rules. League clubs were prohibited from playing

with non-league clubs, save with their own local clubs, and from playing non-league clubs on league grounds during the championship season. The Louisvilles did not take part in the season of 1878. The competing clubs, in the order of finishing, were Boston, Cincinnati, Providence, Chicago, Indianapolis, and Milwaukee. Boston won 41 games and lost 19, to 37 won, 23 lost, for Cincinnati. The clubs were very evenly matched, the Bostons again winning by superior team work and management. The winning club consisted of Snyder, c.; Bond, p.; Morrill, Burdock, Sutton, basemen; George Wright, ss.; Leonard, O'Rourke, Manning, fielders; Shafer, substitute.

In the International Association, London, Pittsburg, Rochester, Manchester, Buffalo, Syracuse, Utica, Binghamton, Hornellsville, Springfield, Lowell, and Hartford competed. Buffalo won with the following nine: Galvin, p.; Dolan, c.; Libby, Fulmer, Allen, basemen; Force, ss.; Crowley, Eggler, McGunnigle, fielders; Mack and McSorley, substitutes.

During this season the decisive action of the league upon the "crooked" cases of the previous season and honest play prevailed, making the game more popular than ever, and convincing people that it was in the hands of those who had the interests of the game at heart.

The third annual meeting of the league was held at the Kennard House, Cleveland, Dec. 4, 1878. Buffalo, Syracuse, Troy, and Cleveland were elected to membership, Indianapolis resigning. In the playing rules the pitcher, when in the act of delivering the ball, was required to face the batsman, and nine called balls were introduced, instead of calling every third unfair ball as one ball. Providence won the championship, with 55 victories, 23 defeats, to 49 victories, 29 defeats, for Boston, the other clubs finishing as follows: Chicago, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Troy, Syracuse. The Providence team consisted of Brown and Gross, c.; Ward, p.; Start, 1 b.; McGearry and Farrell, 2 b.; Hague, 3 b.; George Wright, ss.; York, Hines, O'Rourke, fielders.

The National Association, composed of Eastern professional clubs, was organized in 1879, in which season the Albanys won, the other contestants being Holyoke, Washington, Worcester, New Bedford,

Springfield, Manchester, Rochester, and Utica. The Albany nine consisted of Keenan, c.; Critchley, p.; Tobin, Dunlap, Burns, basemen; Say, ss; Hanlon, Thomas, Rocap, fielders.

The fourth annual meeting of the league was held at Pierce's Hotel, Buffalo, Dec. 3, 1879. The Chicago, Boston, Buffalo, Cleveland, Providence, Cincinnati, and Troy clubs were represented. The Syracuse Club forfeited its membership. Messrs. Hurlbert and Young were re-elected president and secretary. Worcester was elected to membership shortly afterward. On Feb. 26, 1880, a special meeting of the league was held at Rochester, N. Y., when an address to the players was read by President Hurlbert and signed by the clubs, with a view to enforce discipline among the players. The clubs agreed not to negotiate with players before the regular close of the season. Another special meeting was held at Niagara Falls, N. Y., May 25, 1880, at which a complaint made by the Providence Club against the Troy Club was acted upon, and a pledge was made to add a forfeiture of membership for selling malt or spirituous liquors on league grounds, or in buildings owned or occupied by a league club. This was aimed at the Cincinnati Club, and led to that club's forfeiting its membership in the league at the close of the season. The only important changes made in the rules were those changing the number of called balls from nine to eight, and the making it necessary for the ball to be caught on the fly by the catcher to put the batsman out on strikes. The base runners were also to be declared out whenever they allowed a batted ball to strike them.

For the first time in the history of the league, no club disbanded before the season ended. The season was not a financial success, except with the Chicago Club, which took the lead from the start and held it easily, its record being 67 victories, 17 defeats, to 52 victories, 32 defeats, for Providence, the other clubs finishing as follows: Cleveland, Troy, Worcester, Boston, Buffalo, Cincinnati. The champions included Flint, c.; Corcoran, Goldsmith, p.; Anson, Quest, Williamson, basemen; Burns, ss.; Dalrymple, Gore, Kelly, fielders.

In this year the Nationals won the National Association championship with Trott, c.; Lynch, p.; Meyerle, Booth, Ellick, basemen; McClellan, ss.; Holly, Baker, and Derby, fielders.

The fifth annual meeting of the league was held Dec. 8, 1880, at the St. James Hotel, New York. The Chicago, Buffalo, Boston, Worcester, and Providence clubs were represented, and the Detroit Club was elected to membership. Applications from J. A. Devlin, George Hall, W. H. Craver, and A. H. Nichols for reinstatement were referred. Messrs. Hurlbert and Young were re-elected president and secretary.



HARDY RICHARDSON, THE SUPERB GENERAL PLAYER.

The changes in the rules involved the placing of the pitcher's position distant 50 feet from the home base, instead of 45 feet as before, and the narrowing the pitcher's lines from six feet square to six feet by four. Club managers, too, were prohibited from going on the field during a match game. This was directed against Harry Wright. The number of players constituting a side in a match was also designated in the rules for the first time this year. Substitutes were also prohibited

from taking a place in a nine unless to replace an injured player. The number of unfair balls allowed to be pitched was reduced from eight to seven. The base runner was to be declared out if after three strikes he failed to run to the base. This rule put a stop to the chance to make a double or triple play from the catcher's failure to take the ball on the fly after the three strikes had been called, for the purpose of forcing runners off when all the bases were occupied when the third strike was called. The pitcher, too, was amenable to a fine for intentionally hitting the batsman with a pitched ball.

In the season of 1881, Chicago did the best and most even work and won the championship, the record being 56 victories, 28 defeats, to 47 victories, 37 defeats, for Providence. Then followed the Buffalo, Detroit, Boston, Cleveland, and Worcester clubs. Worcester opened brilliantly, being second at the close of May, after winning eight out of the first nine games played. This club won but four games out of sixteen in July. The winners played the same team as in the previous season, with Nicoll as substitute.

The sixth annual meeting of the league was held Dec. 7, 1881, at the Tremont House, Chicago. Chicago, Boston, Cleveland, Providence, Troy, Buffalo, and Worcester were represented. Special colors were decided upon for the league clubs as follows: Boston, red; Buffalo, gray; Chicago, white; Cleveland, navy blue; Detroit, old gold; Providence, light blue; Troy, green; Worcester, brown. At a special meeting at the Russell House, Detroit, June 24, 1882, Richard Higham, umpire, was expelled for "crooked" work. The league suffered a great loss this year in the death of its president and founder, William A. Hurlbert, at Chicago, April 10, 1882, at the age of forty-nine years.

The league contest of 1882 was more closely contested than it had been for some seasons. Providence held the lead for the greater part of the season, but the Chicagos, with their well-known rallying power, pulled out ahead and won 55 victories, 29 defeats, to 52 victories, 31 defeats, for Providence, the championship being won in the very last week of the season. Buffalo was a good third, then Boston, Detroit, Cleveland, and Troy, closely bunched, with Worcester sadly distanced. The Chicago nine was the same as in preceding seasons.

The seventh annual meeting of the league was held in Hotel Dor-

rance, Providence, R. I., Dec. 6, 1882, Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Providence, Troy, and Worcester being represented. The Troy and Worcester clubs resigned their membership, and were replaced by new New York and Philadelphia. A. G. Wills was elected president, and N. E. Young, secretary, A. H. Soden hav-



DENNIS BROUTHERS, THE LEAGUE'S GREAT BATSMAN.

ing acted as president during the remainder of the late president's term. N. Doescher was expelled for dishonest conduct. An arbitration committee was appointed. The disqualification of many players was cancelled, among them Al McKinnon, P. Baker, C. W. Jones, and J. J. Gerhardt. A regular staff of umpires was appointed, consisting of Messrs. S. M. Decker, Frank Lane, W. E. Furlong, and A. F. Odlin

The rules of 1883 did not allow the arm to be raised above the shoulder in delivery. The foul bound was abolished. The arbitration committee met at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, Feb. 17, 1883. It consisted of A. G. Mills, A. H. Soden, J. B. Day, of the league; Lewis Simmons, William Barnie, of the American Association; and Elias Matter, of the Northwestern League. This body drew up the tripartite agreement, afterward known as the national agreement.

The season was the most exciting known in league history, Boston winning, with 62 victories, 35 defeats; Chicago second, with 59 victories, 39 defeats; Providence third, 58 victories, 40 defeats; Cleveland fourth, 55 victories, 41 defeats; Buffalo fifth, 52 victories, 45 defeats; New York sixth, 46 victories, 50 defeats; Detroit next, 40 victories, 58 defeats; while Philadelphia brought up the rear, with 17 victories, 81 defeats. The winning team included Hines, Hackett, c.; Whitney, Buffinton, p.; Morrill, Burdock, Sutton, basemen; Wise, ss.; Hornung, Smith, Radford, fielders. The number of games in a series — 12 from 1877–82 — was raised to 14 in 1883.

The eighth annual meeting of the league was held in the Riggs House, Washington, Nov. 21, 1883, at which Boston, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, and Providence were represented. Messrs. Mills and Young were elected president and secretary. The system of reserving 12 men of a club was introduced at this convention. In this year, Dunlap, McCormick, and Glasscock, of the Clevelands, Fred Shaw, of the Detroits, Charles Sweeney, of the Providence Club, and others of less note, were expelled for contract jumping. The rules of this season allowed overhanded throwing. Called balls were reduced in number from seven to six. The rule requiring batsmen to be declared out for failure to run to a base after three strokes was abolished. By superb work, the Providence Club won the championship; the Bostons, Buffalos, and New Yorks keeping close company for the first three months. Radbourn's great work was of such a nature that in August the club won 17 out of 18 games, the only game lost being by 2 to 1, 11 innings, on the polo grounds, New York. In the next month matters were clinched by their winning 15 games out of 19. Providence won 84 games, lost 28; Boston, 73–38; Buffalos, 64–47; Chicagos and New Yorks, 62–50; then follow-

ing Philadelphia, Cleveland, and Detroit. The champion nine consisted of Gilligan, Nava, c.; Radbourn, Sweeny, p.; Start, Farrell, Denny, basemen; Irwin, ss.; Carroll, Hines, Radford, fielders; Bassett, substitute. This season was one of the most notable seasons in the annals of the national game, including, as it did, more associations, more clubs, and more remarkable contests than in any one preceding year. There were no fewer than 12 associations, including 92 clubs.

The Union Association opened its season April 17 with Altoona, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Keystone of Philadelphia, National of Washington, and St. Louis. The St. Louis won with Baker, Brennan, Dolan, c.; Sweeney, Boyle, Hodnett, Werden, p.; Baker, Brennan, Dolan, c.; Quinn, Dunlap, Gleason, basemen; Whitehead, ss.; Boyle, Rowe, Shafer, outfielders. The Cincinnati were second, Baltimores and Bostons tied for third place, and the Nationals were fifth. These were the only clubs to finish.

The ninth annual meeting of the league was held at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, Nov. 19, 1884. Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, New York, Philadelphia, and Providence were represented. President A. G. Mills resigned, and N. E. Young was elected in his place. The St. Louis Club was admitted to membership, Cleveland afterward resigning its membership. April 18, 1885, McCormick, Briody, and Glasscock, the contract breakers, were reinstated on payment of a fine of \$1,000, and Dunlap, Shafer, and Sweeney, reserve rule violation, on payment of \$500. The campaign was a most exciting one, the Chicagos, who won the championship, and the New Yorks, who were second, far outstripping their rivals. At the end of the first three months, the Chicagos had won 53 games and lost 14, to 50 games won and 16 lost for New York. Both clubs continued in their even work to the end of the season, Chicago winning with 87 won, 25 lost, to 85 won, 27 lost, for New York. Philadelphia was third, then Providence, Boston, Detroit, Buffalo, and St. Louis. Sixteen games constituted the series in this year, as it had since and including 1884. The Chicagos included Flint, Kelly, c.; Clarkson, McCormick, p.; Anson, Pfeffer, Williamson, basemen; Burns, ss.; Dalrymple, Gore, Kelly, outfielders.

The league's tenth annual meeting was held at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, Nov. 18, 1885. The New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Buffalo, Boston, Detroit, Providence, and St. Louis clubs were represented. Mr. N. E. Young was re-elected president and secretary of the league. At a special meeting held at the same place, March 3, 1886, the Kansas City Club was elected to membership. The president was authorized to accept the resignation of the Providence and Buffalo clubs when tendered. The number of games in a series was increased to 18.

Chicago won the league championship for the sixth time in 1886, after another magnificent struggle, which well tested their rallying powers. Detroit was the strongest competitor, and these two clubs were side by side for almost the whole season. At the end of July, Chicago had won 50 games and lost 18, to 55 won and 14 lost for Detroit. In the very next month, Chicago won 17 games and lost 6, while Detroit won but 10 and lost 13. Thus Chicago assumed a lead that was maintained to the very end, the final figures being 90-34 for Chicago and 87-36 for Detroit. New York was third, Philadelphia fourth, then Boston, St. Louis, Kansas City, and Washington.

The league's eleventh annual meeting occurred at the Tremont House, Chicago, Nov. 17, 1886. The Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Kansas City, New York, Philadelphia, St. Louis, and Washington clubs were represented. The Pittsburg Club was elected to membership. New rules relating to the pitching department: the size of the pitcher's position was reduced from seven feet in length to five feet six inches, and he was required to keep one foot on the rear line of his position, and keep the ball in plain sight of the umpire. The coaches were compelled to take their stand at points near the first and third bases. The umpire was required to have two balls ready for use at all times. The distinction between high and low balls was abolished. A base was allowed when a batter was hit by a pitched ball. Base runners were deprived of the right of having substitutes run for them. The number of strikes was increased to four. The captain of the home nine was made the sole judge as to the fitness or the condition of the ground after rain had fallen, and not the umpire. Championship games were ordered to be commenced not later than two hours before

sunset. The season of 1887 was the most successful ever known in the history of the game, but was finally won by the Detroits, who towered like giants over the clubs following, the Philadelphias and Chicagos. The Detroits really held the lead during the entire season. The Chicagos tied them just once. At the end of July the situation was: Detroit, 45 won, 26 lost; Chicagos, 42 won, 28 lost; Boston, 40 won, 30 lost; New York, 41 won, 33 lost; Philadelphia, 37 won, 36



SAMUEL L. THOMPSON, THE HEAVY HITTING RIGHT-FIELDER.

lost. From this point Chicago, New York, and Boston fell off in their work, while Philadelphia showed the best form of any league club, finishing second. At the close of the season Detroit had won 79 games, lost 45; Philadelphia, 75-48; Chicago, 71-50; New York, 68-55; Boston, 61-60; Pittsburg, 55-69; Washington, 46-76; and Indianapolis, 37-89. The Bostons added greatly to the excitement to the campaign by the brilliant way they started out after the acquisition of

Michael J. Kelly, of Chicago, for whose release the sum of \$10,000 was paid, the transaction being the most stupendous known in base ball history. Mr. Kelly's salary was \$4,000. In the first month Boston won 19 games out of 27, a showing equalled only by the Detroit. The latter won through the great four, Brouthers, Richardson, Rowe, and White, who were secured from the Buffalo Club for a price about half of what the Boston Club would pay for the release of Hardy Richardson.

Nov. 14, 1887, the joint committee for the revision of the rules met at the Anderson House, Pittsburg, Pa. The committee consisted of Messrs. Spalding, Day, and Scandrett, for the league, and Phelps, Barnie, and Williams, for the American Association. They decided to change the number of strikes from four to three; that a base on balls should no longer count as a base hit, but as an error; that the base runner should not be called out if a batted ball hit him after it had passed a fielder; that the batter should be called out on a third strike when the ball hit his person or clothes; that the base runner should be allowed a base when the ball hit the umpire.

The meeting of the league was held in the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, and was the longest and most interesting ever held. The Boston, Chicago, Detroit, New York, Indianapolis, Pittsburg, Philadelphia, and Washington clubs were represented. The meeting lasted three days, and the attendance of base ball players, umpires, reporters, and others was unprecedentedly large. It was voted that no exhibition or championship league games be played on Sundays; that two players, whose names should appear in addition to those of the regular team on the score card, could be substituted for other players at the end of any completed inning, but that the retired players should not be allowed to participate afterwards in the game; that a substitute should be allowed in case of an injury to a player; that the umpires be paid such salaries as are agreed between the appointees and the secretary, subject to the approval of the directors of the league; that postponed and tied games can be played off on the grounds of either club by mutual consent. It was voted that visiting clubs should receive twenty-five per cent of the receipts, or a guarantee of \$150, and fifty per cent of the receipts on holidays. A com-

mittee of the Brotherhood of League Players, consisting of Messrs. Ward, Hanlon, and Brouthers, was received, and the contract offered by the latter was substantially adopted.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.

The American Association was organized at Cincinnati, O., Nov. 2, 1881, and the following clubs competed for the championship in the



CHARLES W. BENNETT, THE RELIABLE AND PLUCKY CATCHER.

first season: Alleghany of Pittsburg, Athletic of Philadelphia, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Eclipse of Louisville, and St. Louis. The officers were: H. D. McKnight of the Alleghany Club, president; J. H. Pank of the Eclipse Club, vice-president; and J. A. Williams of Columbus, O., secretary and treasurer. The championship was easily won by Cincinnati, Athletic second, then Eclipse, Alleghany, St. Louis, and Baltimore. The record of the Cincinnati was 55 won

and 25 lost. The champion team consisted of Snyder, c.; White, H. McCormick, p.; Luff and Stearns, 1 b.; McPhee, 2 b.; Carpenter, 3 b.; Fulmer, ss.; Sommer, Macullar, Wheeler, fielders; Kemmler and Powers, change catchers.

At the annual meeting in December, 1882, President McKnight and Secretary Williams were re-elected. The opening season had been very successful, but the one following was much more so, owing, doubtless, to the national agreement, then first entered into by the three prominent associations. The competing clubs were: Athletics, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Metropolitan of New York, Eclipse, Columbus, Alleghany, and Baltimore. The Athletics won the championship with 66 victories, 32 defeats, to 65 victories, 35 defeats, for St. Louis. The latter club did the best up-hill work during the campaign. The winning nine consisted of Rowen, O'Brien, c.; Matthews, Corey, p.; Stovey, Stricker, Bradley, basemen; Birchall, Blakiston, Crowley, Knight, fielders; Blakely, Jones, change pitchers. At the annual meeting of the association, Dec. 12, 13, 1883, the number of clubs was increased from eight to twelve, the new additions being Brooklyn, Washington, Indianapolis, and Toledo. The season was extended to Oct. 15, and the number of games in a series was fixed at 10. Mr. H. D. McKnight was re-elected president, and Mr. Wheeler C. Wikoff, of Columbus, O., was elected secretary. The Metropolitans of New York secured the championship in 1884, winning 75 games and losing 32, to 69 victories and 39 defeats for Columbus. Louisville won 68 games, lost 40; Cincinnati won 68, lost 41; St. Louis won 67, lost 40; Baltimore won 63, lost 44; Athletics won 61, lost 46. It was a very interesting and closely contested campaign, the drawback being the too large number of clubs, the last clubs making a wretched showing. The Virginia Club replaced the Washington Club in August. The "Mets," as the Metropolitans were familiarly called, took the lead in the first weeks of the campaign, and held their advantage throughout. The struggle for places among the other clubs was the greatest ever known in any professional organization. The champions consisted of Holbert, Reipschlager, c.; Keefe, Lynch, p.; Orr, Troy, Esterbrook, basemen; Nelson, ss.; Kennedy, Roseman, Brady, fielders.

The fourth annual meeting of the association was held at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, Dec. 10, 11, 1884. The Alleghany, Athletic, Baltimore, Brooklyn, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Louisville, Metropolitan, St. Louis, and Virginia clubs were represented. The Toledo's resigned. It was voted that the eight clubs to constitute the association consist of Alleghany, Athletic, Baltimore, Brooklyn, Cincinnati, Eclipse, Metropolitan, and St. Louis. Messrs. McKnight and



CHRISTOPHER VON DER AHE, PRESIDENT OF THE ST. LOUIS BASE BALL CLUB.

Wikoff were re-elected president and secretary. T. J. Mullane was suspended for a year and fined \$1,000. John Kelley, J. G. Valentine, M. Walsh, and John Connelly were appointed umpires. In this year the American Association undertook to deprive the Metropolitans of their franchise and elect the Nationals of Washington in their place, on the ground that the club, controlled by the company which owned the New Yorks, was to be run in an inferior manner to the league

club. The matter was taken to the courts, and, as a result, the franchise was restored to the Metropolitans. S. W. Barkley was fined \$100 and suspended for a year for duplicity and dishonorable conduct in having signed with the Pittsburg Club after having accepted advance money from Baltimore. The St. Louis Club won the championship with comparative ease in 1885, the record being 79 victories, 33 defeats, to 63 victories, 49 defeats, for Cincinnati; 56 victories, 55 defeats, for Pittsburg; 55-57 for the Athletics; 53-59 for Brooklyn, with the Metropolitans and Louisvilles far behind.

The victorious team embraced: Bushong, Sullivan, c.; Foutz, Caruthers, McGinnis, p.; Comiskey, Barkley, Latham, basemen; Gleason, ss.; O'Neill, Welch, Nicol, fielders.

The Athletic, Alleghany, Baltimore, Brooklyn, Cincinnati, Louisville, and St. Louisville clubs were represented at the annual meeting at the Continental Hotel, Dec. 8, 1885. Mr. McKnight was elected to the new consolidated office of president, secretary, and treasurer, at a salary of \$1,800. On Dec. 28 the series of games was increased in numbers to 20. John Kelly, B. F. Young, D. J. Mack, and W. J. Carlin were announced as umpires. The season of 1886 was in every respect the most prosperous ever held by the association. The St. Louis, as in the preceding year, had little difficulty in winning the championship. They won 93 games and lost 46, to 80-57 for Pittsburg, 77-61 for Brooklyn, 66-70 for Louisville, 65-73 for Cincinnati, 63-73 for Athletic, Metropolitan and Baltimore again bringing up the rear.

The annual meeting in 1886 was held at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, with the Athletic, Baltimore, Brooklyn, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Louisville, Metropolitan, and St. Louis clubs represented, Cleveland being the new member admitted by a full vote of the clubs. Wheeler C. Wykoff was elected president, secretary, and treasurer. E. A. Cuthbert, Alonzo Knight, and A. Bauer were elected umpires. The St. Louis were far too strong in this season for the other clubs of the association, and this fact robbed the contest of much of its interest. The winners won 95 games and lost 40, to 81-54 for Cincinnati, 77-58 for Baltimore, 76-60 for Louisville, the Athletic, Brooklyn, Metropolitan, and Cleveland clubs finishing in that order. The cham-

pionship team consisted of Bushong, Boyle, c.; Caruthers, Hudson, Foutz, King, Knouff, p.; Comiskey, Robinson, Latham, basemen; Gleason, ss.; O'Neill, Welch, and one of the batteries, fielders.

The sixth annual meeting of the association occurred at Cincinnati, Dec. 8, 9, 1887. The Brooklyn, Athletic, St. Louis, and Baltimore clubs were represented. Mr. Wykoff was elected president and secretary. The admission at games was raised to 50 cents. Messrs.



WALTER LATHAM, THE RENOWNED BASE RUNNER.

Ferguson, McQuade, Gaffney, and Doescher were secured as umpires. The Brooklyn Club having purchased the franchise of the Metropolitans, the Kansas Citys were elected as the eighth club at a subsequent meeting.

The Eastern Championship Association was formed April 11, 1881, by the Metropolitan, New York, and Quickstep clubs of New York, Atlantic of Brooklyn, Athletic of Philadelphia, and National of Washington. The Nationals soon went under, and were replaced by a club

from Albany. The Metropolitans, Athletics, and Atlantics alone completed the schedule, the former winning with 32 victories, 13 defeats. The winners included Daly, Poorman, p.; Hayes, Dorgan, c.; Esterbrook, Brady, Muldoon, basemen; Say, ss.; Kennedy, Clinton, Roseman, fielders.

In 1882 the Interstate Association was formed at Reading, Pa. The Brooklyns won the first championship, on which they, with the Actives of Reading, Anthracites of Pottsville, Harrisburgs in Pennsylvania, Merritt of Camden, Trenton of Trenton, N. J., and Quicksteps of Wilmington, Del., competed. Brooklyn won with Kimber, Terry, p.; Farrow, Corcoran, c.; Householder, Greenwood, Fennelly, basemen; Geer, ss.; Smith, Walker, Doyle, fielders. In 1884, the Eastern League was formed, and the Actives of Reading, Allentown, Harrisburg, Ironsides, Monumental, Trenton, Virginia, Wilmington, and York clubs competed. Wilmington won, winning 44 out of 55 games. In 1885, the Washington, Richmond, Trenton, Waterbury, Newark, Norfolk, Lancaster, Bridgeport, Jersey City, and Atlantic City clubs competed. Washington won with 70 victories, 25 defeats, to 67 victories, 26 defeats, for Richmond. Newark won the championship in 1886 from Waterbury, Jersey City, Hartford, Bridgeport, Providence, Meriden, and Long Island.

The International league closed its first season in 1886, with Utica first, then Rochester, Toronto, Hamilton, Buffalo, Syracuse, Binghamton, Oswego. In 1887, Toronto won, then Buffalo, Syracuse, Newark, Hamilton, Jersey City, Rochester, Wilkesbarre, and Scranton.

In 1885, the New England championship was won by Lawrence, the other contestants being Brockton, Haverhill, Portland, and Newburyport. In 1886, Portland won, Haverhill, Lynn, Brockton, Lawrence, and Boston finishing in that order.

In 1887, Lowell won, followed by Portland, Haverhill, Manchester, Salem, and Lynn.

Among the other professional leagues that have participated in the campaigns of seasons past are the Southern and Western, and numerous State leagues. Over 3,000 championship contests were played by the clubs of the professional leagues in 1887.

The contests between the league and association clubs have been

regarded with interest by the admirers of the respective bodies. In 1882, the league clubs won 25 out of 27 games; in 1883, 64 out of 86; in 1884, 58 out of 86, 2 being drawn; in 1885, 28 out of 62, with 5 drawn games; in 1886, 27 out of 64, with 3 drawn; in 1887, 47 out of 80, with 1 drawn game; making a total of five seasons of 249 victories for the league to 148 for the association. Most all of these games, it will be remembered, were played on association diamonds.



J. W. GLASSCOCK, THE GREAT SHORTSTOP.

In 1884, the Providence, league champions, and the Metropolitans, American Association champions, played at New York, and Providence won three straight games. In 1885, Chicago and St. Louis, respective champions of their associations, played a series of games, each club winning three games, with one drawn. In 1886, St. Louis won four games out of six, and in 1887, Detroit won 10 out of 15 games from St. Louis. Total league champion club victories, 18; American, 12.

The Intercollegiate championship was won in 1880 by Princeton; 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1886, and 1887, by Yale; in 1885, by Harvard.

The salaries of the Boston nine for 1871 and 1872 were less in each year than were paid by the same club for the release and salary of one player, M. J. Kelly, in 1887. The gate receipts in 1873 were \$13,990, and in 1874, \$19,005, against over \$100,000 net receipts in 1887. There was a balance of \$767.93 in the treasury in 1873, and of \$833.13 in 1874. The salaries of the players in 1873 were as follows: Spalding, \$1,800; White, \$1,500; O'Rourke, \$800; Shafer, \$1,200; Leonard, \$1,400; Harry Wright, \$1,800; Birdsall, \$1,000; Sweazy, \$800; Manning, \$500. In 1881, Providence paid Ward, \$1,700; Gross, \$1,500; Start, \$1,300; Farrell, \$1,400; Denny, \$900; McClellan, \$1,100; Houck, \$700; Hines, \$1,400; Baker, \$900; Matthews, \$1,000; Gilligan, \$875.

Meyerle, Athletic, led the batting in 1871; Force, Troy and Baltimore in 1872; Barnes, Boston, in 1873; McMullen, Athletic, in 1874; Anson, Chicago, 1875; Barnes, Chicago, 1876; White, Boston, 1877; Dalrymple, Milwaukee, 1878; Anson, Chicago, 1879; Gore, Chicago, 1880; Anson, Chicago, 1881; Brouthers, Buffalo, 1882; Brouthers, Buffalo, 1883; O'Rourke, Buffalo, 1884; Connor, New York, 1885; Kelly, Chicago, 1886; Anson, Chicago, 1887. American Association — Browning, 1882; Browning, 1883; Esterbrook, 1884; Browning, 1885; Orr, 1886; O'Neill, 1887.

Remarkable games, by reason of their length and closeness, have been numerous, and of these may be mentioned the 5-5, 15-inning game at Louisville, Ky., July 8, 1876; the 8-5, 16-inning game between the same clubs, July 10 following, when the Mutuals won. May 11, 1877, on the Boston grounds, the Harvard University and Manchester, N. H., clubs played 24 innings without a run being scored on either side, the Harvard battery being the famous Ernst and Tyng, and for Manchester Snigg and Carl. Coggs well, of Manchester, put out 31 men on first base without an error, while Catcher Tyng put out 36 men behind the bat. On May 1 of the same year, the St. Louis and Stars of Syracuse played 15 innings without a run being scored on either side. The pitchers were Nichols and McCormick. July 9, at Columbus, O., the Buckeye and Tecumseh clubs played 18 innings, with the score one run each. June 29, 1878, at Philadelphia, the

Yeager nine of Philadelphia defeated the Girard College nine, 10-7, in 21 innings. O'Brien and Milligan, afterward with the Athletics, caught for the two teams. Aug. 7, 1882, Radbourn, of Providence, made a home run in the eighteenth inning, the only one in the match with Providence at Detroit. June 26, 1881, at Louisville, Ky., the Eclipse Club of that city played a tie game with the Akron, O., Club,



HENRY CHADWICK, THE FATHER OF BASE BALL.

the score being 2-2. Aug. 22, 1882, the Actives of Reading, Pa., and the Merritts of Camden, N. J., played 19 innings, the score being a draw, 3-3. June 4, 1880, the Providence-Chicago games stood 1-1, 16 innings. June 24, 1882, Metropolitan and Philadelphia clubs scored 2 runs each in 15 innings. June 16, 1884, the Boston and Providence game stood 1-1, and in that season Providence beat Boston, 4-3, 15 innings.

Mr. Chadwick is the oldest writer on the national game now in harness. For the past thirty years he has been on the editorial staff of

the New York *Clipper*, and two years ago he closed a thirty years career as a writer on base ball and cricket on the New York dailies, to take a position on the editorial staff of the *Outing Magazine*, the night work on the dailies being too arduous for a man of his age, he now being past sixty-three. For the past twenty years he has been on the editorial staff of the Brooklyn *Eagle*; this and the *Clipper* work occupying most of his time.

It is rare that he is tempted to leave his old stamping grounds in Brooklyn, of which city he has been a continuous resident for fifty years, and, though English in birth, he is thoroughly American in his views and in feeling. The title given him of "the father of the game" arose from the fact that, as chairman of the committee on rules of the old national association, in the sixties, he originated the most prominent of the amendments to the playing rules of the game, which helped to build up the lasting structure of our national game. It was he who organized the first professional association, dividing the fraternity into two classes, he having been joined in this last work by the veteran president of the league.

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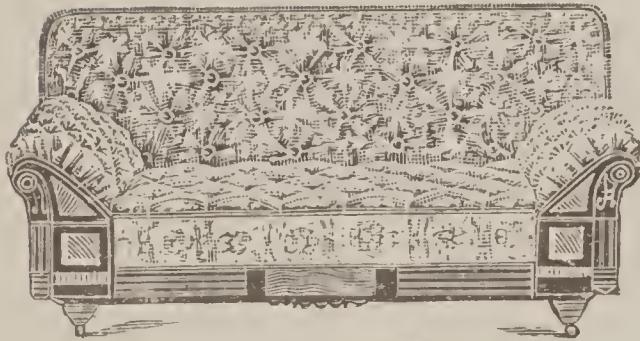
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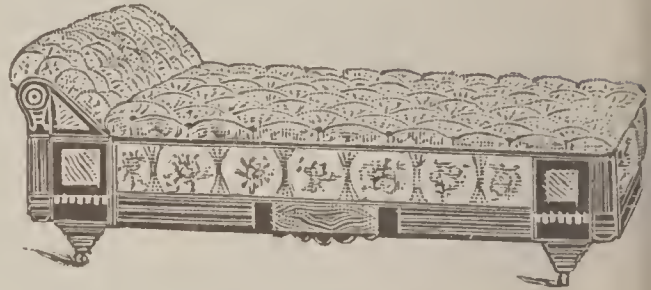
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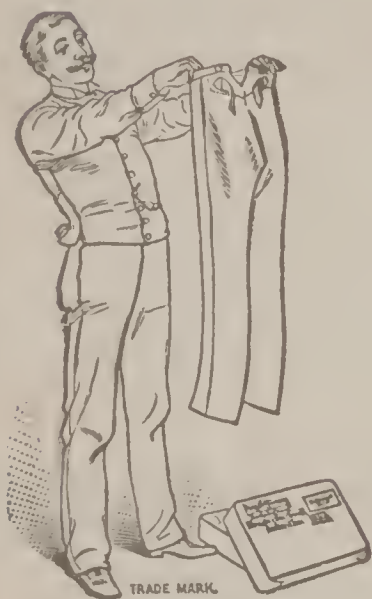
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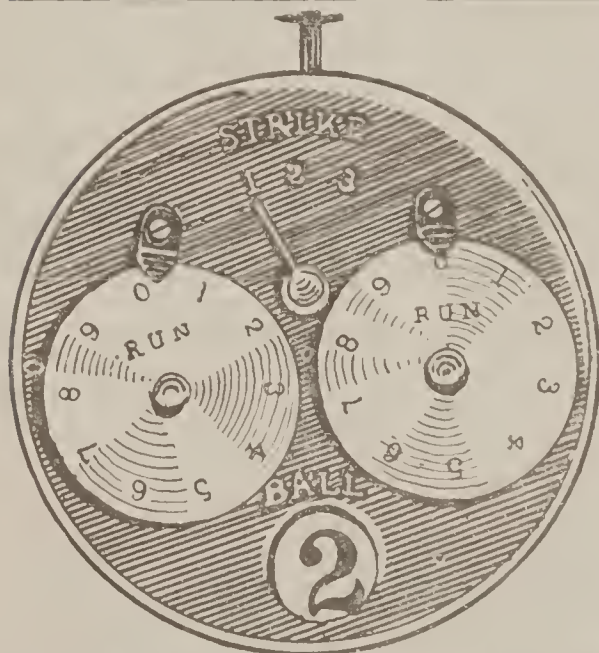
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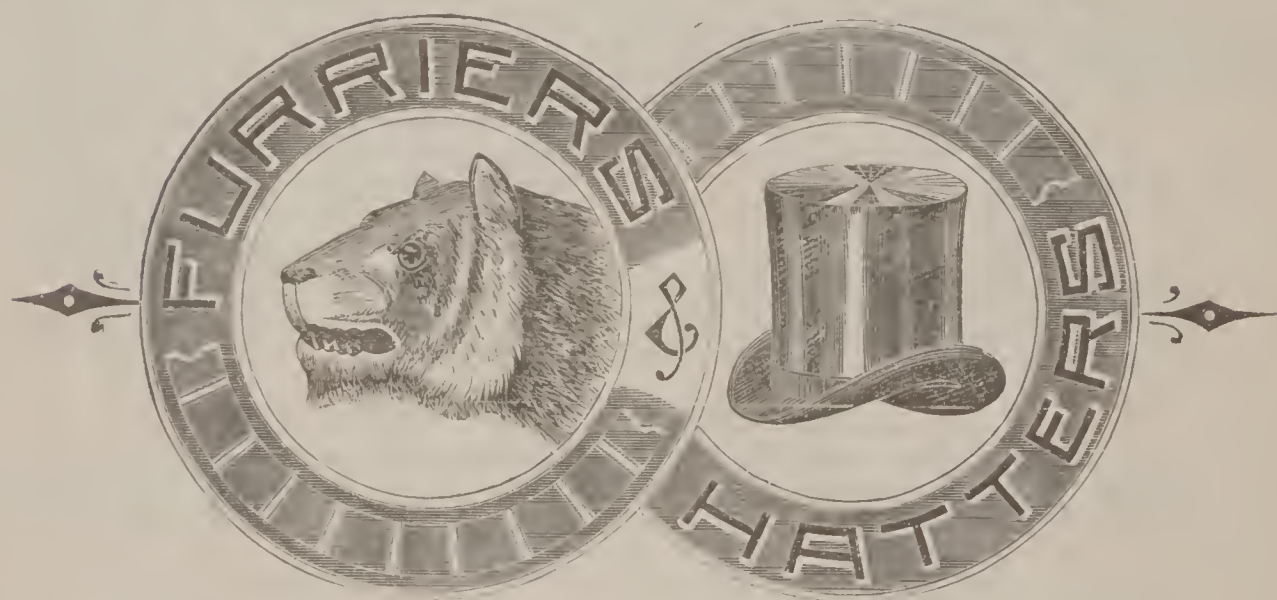
Is a mighty comfortable fellow, and unless he has dyspepsia *bad*, or has a lonesome lung, or is club-footed in both feet, or can't whistle, he generally takes life pretty blooming easy. He can have a seat on the grand stand at the ball game, in the shade, — if the sun 's right; sail the billowy billow in his yacht, — if he is n't sea-sick; pat the turf with the hoofs of his thoroughbred steed, — if he can stick on, and enjoy life immensely. Besides, he can do a heap of good. We all should like to have this condition of things for our own, — that 's natural, of course. Now there are many and various ways of becoming wealthy in this good old land of ours. Dr. Franklin says that "the road to wealth is as plain as the road to mill." This is true, no doubt, but the deuce of it is to find the guidepost that will point us to the right road. It's easy enough to follow the road after we have found it and started right. Probably the best roads leading to wealth — certainly the easiest to travel — are those pointed out by the guideposts in the form of letters sent to the editor of the *Boston Herald*, in response to requests sent to successful men who have travelled them and reached the goal. These letters are from the pens of Hon. Benj. F. Butler, Hon. P. T. Barnum, Hon. Oliver Ames, Hon. Chas. A. Pillsbury (the flour king of Minneapolis), Hon. Henry H. Faxon, Russell Sage, Erastus Wiman, and Asa P. Potter (president of the Maverick National Bank of Boston). They excited much interest when published in the *Herald*, and were largely quoted and commented upon by the public press. With a burning desire to help our *poor* fellow-man (and ourselves) along the road to wealth, we have published these letters in book form, and will send them by mail to any one sending us 25 cents. The book contains forty-five pages of good sound advice, and is illustrated with the likenesses of the writers of the letters. Its title is "*How to Get Rich.*" Send for it by all means. J. F. Spofford & Co., Publishers, No. 6 Herald Building, Boston, Mass.

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From C. R. R., Librarian, Ames Free Library, North Easton, Mass.—The proof of a pudding is the eating. Your Book of Sports is in circulation all of the time. It is a capital book.

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From E. J. Cross, Cambria, Wis.—The chapter on the "Gun and Rifle" is good.

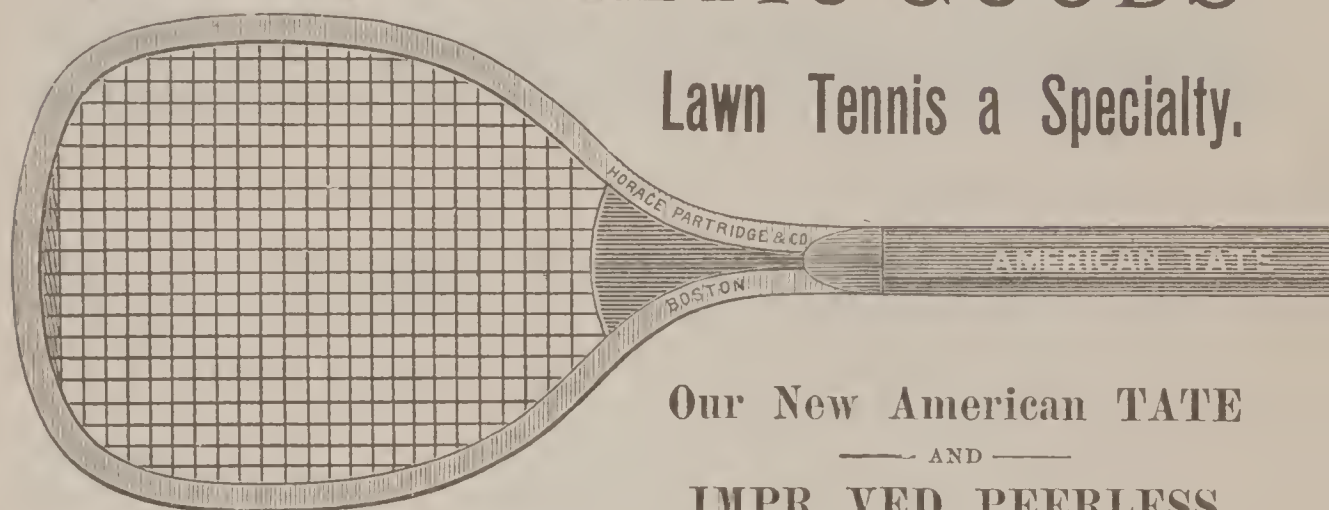
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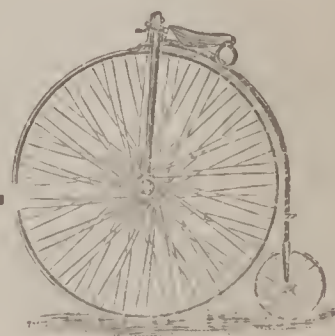
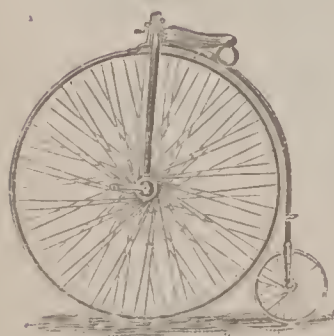


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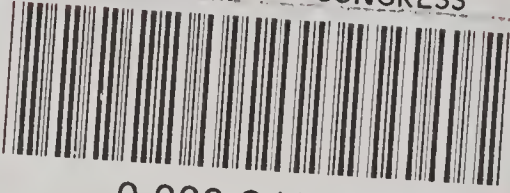
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